HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS



June 1, 1970

UN Trusteeship Council Begins Annual TT Hearings

The United Nations Trusteeship Council began its annual hearings late last month. Delegates were scheduled to begin hearing testimony from TT Representatives in early June.

High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston left Saipan Saturday, May 23, on an extended trip which will include his appearance before the Trusteeship Council. Johnston heads the TT delegation of Executive Officer Leo Falcam, Congress of Micronesia Senator Ambilos Ieshi and Rep. Benjamin Manglona, Congress Legislative Counsel Kaleb Udui, and N. Neiman Craley, Jr., TT Director of Public Affairs.

The US in mid-May reported that further progress has been made in Micronesia's political, economic and social fields. The Associated Press (AP) reported that UN Secretary-General U Thant has made available to members of the 15-nation UN Security Council the 22nd annual report of the TT covering the period July 1, 1968, to June 30, 1969.

The US report on Micronesia's progress also has been distributed to the 126 UN member governments under the provisions of the UN Charter. The UN Security Council was primarily involved with the report because the islands are considered a strategic territory. The US report came in advance of the report from the UN Visiting Mission which toured Micronesia earlier. Both the US report and that of the visiting mission will be considered by the UN Trusteeship Council.

In the field of economics, the US report said that, while some areas of advancement remain behind schedule, the tourism industry is showing progress and growth potential. It reported that the number of visitors to the Territory has increased about 45 per cent annually over the last four years.

It also said improved air service introduced in 1968 was followed by a new contract for logistic shipping, which includes direct service from the Far East and US West Coast ports. The report further noted that the communications modernization program was progressing on schedule, with all major inhabited islands now equipped with radios.



THESE EBEYE PRE-SCHOOLERS are some of more than 32,000 Micronesian youngsters who attended the more than 200 public and private schools at all levels in the Trust Territory this year. For a report on the school year, turn to page eight.

In the period covered, a record was set in government construction. About \$23 million, plus \$8 million in emergency typhoon restoration projects, was expended to bring to the Territory such needed facilities as hospitals, schools, power plants, water and sewers, the report said.

"Improved facilities in the Marianas, devastated by Typhoon Jean in April, 1968, were nearly completed by the year's end," the report said.

Along with the School construction program, about 800 more elementary and 350 additional secondary students were reported attending classes. Some 445 Micronesians were studying abroad in institutes of higher education.

The High Commissioner is expected to return to Headquarters in Saipan in early July. During a stop in Honolulu, Mr. Johnston attended a Health, Education and Welfare meeting, and conferred with Robert Law, TT Liaison Officer.

Following the report to the Trusteeship Council, the High Commissioner will travel to Washington, D.C., where he will present testimony before war claims hearings.

Typhoon Briefing Held at TT Headquarters

A team of the US Air Force and Navy officers from the Fleet Weather Central and the Pacific Joint Typhoon Warning Center on Guam briefed a meeting of the District Administrators and the Hi Com's cabinet members on Tuesday, May 12. They compared notes on mischievous and temperamental "girls", all of them intruders into peaceful Micronesia.

These "girls" are the typhoons which annually spread terror among the inhabitants of the Western Pacific. Some of the familiar names the people of the Western Pacific often talk about are "Ida," "Nina," Jean," "Sally," "Karen," "Nancy," "Tess" and "Olive,"

"The typhoons are named after women because they are difficult to manage and they don't do the things you want them to do," Navy Commander William C. Kaag, operations officer of the Fleet Weather Central, said. In 60 years, 61 major typhoons hit Guam and the Marianas Islands. The worst was Typhoon Karen which ripped through Guam with more than 200 mile-an-hour winds in 1962.

Saipan and her sister islands were smashed by Typhoon Jean in April, 1968. The typhoon's 190-mile-an-hour winds leveled the islands, causing some \$16 million in property losses. In 1968, 12 typhoons whirled through the TT, 10 of which affected the Marianas. The other two swept through the Caroline Islands.

Education Program Moves Ahead

High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston, addressing the opening session of the District Directors of Education conference in Saipan, said he was extremely pleased with the progress of education in the TT. He said: "There is a new thrust in education in Micronesia, and we are moving forward in every area."

The TT Chief Executive took special note of the Micronesian Occupational Center (MOC) and related programs, upgrading of teachers, the scholarship program and adult education. He added that the TT program to build more schools with money-saving techniques has been enthusiastically accepted by the US Congress and the Dept. of Interior.

"The excellent direction the TT is moving in the field of education and other programs is most praise-worthy," the HiCom said. The conference opened with a welcoming address by TT Director of Education R. Burl Yarberry. Included in the five-day conference agenda were budget reviews, discussions of school codes and support of private schools, program funding, and District reports.

Another super typhoon, "Sally" packing nearly 220 mile-an-hour winds plowed through Yap and Palau Districts in March, 1967. Yap and Palau have been hit by 25 typhoons in 21 years.

"A typhoon can strike the islands in the TT at any time of the year," according to Lt. Col. John Kinney. "Our mission is to provide typhoon verification techniques and typhoon formation alerts." Aerial reconnaissance is provided by the US Air Force 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and the Navy's VW-1 Squadron.

A weather satellite also furnishes day and night typhoon data, so that it is almost impossible for typhoons to escape detection. "We are one-third more accurate in verification techniques than a decade ago," Kinney added. He said a new system-Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert-has been started this year.

"The Western Pacific has three times more typhoons than the Atlantic, Carribean and the Gulf of Mexico areas. When a typhoon is detected heading toward a populated area, aerial reconaissance is sent into the eye of the typhoon four times a day--every six hours," Kinney said.

"Sometimes aircraft are sent on a mission every three hours until the typhoon comes into our radar range." Typhoons in the Western Pacific are spawned in the Marshalls and Truk Districts. The typhoons run west and swing north usually targeting Yap, Palau, Guam and the Marianas.

Communicators at Workshop

The TT Government Communications Workshop was held last month at Headquarters in Saipan. The two-and-a-half week meeting included discussions on sessions on training program aimed at assisting Micronesian radio operators to qualify for re-classification under new standards approved by Headquarters representatives.

John E. Welch, Chief of Communication Division, led off the conference with a speech covering his division's modernization program, objectives and goals. Participants at the workshop were Micronesian Chief Radio Operators Lesley L. Talley, Marshalls; Oshiro F. Masters, Ponape and Saburo F. Antonio, Palau. Also attending were Chief Communications Operator of Truk Russell R. Spalding and William H. Sedore, Yap Chief of Communications.

Leading the training session was Earl N. Inks, instructor and watch supervisor at Kagman Relay Control Station KUP-71. He was assisted by Clyde A. Benge, Gregorio B. Sablan, Cecil E. Gosney and Roland Gella from Kagman and Podis Pedrus from Personnel Dept.

Truk Legislature in Session

The Truk District Legislature has convened in Moen under the leadership of Speaker Hermes Katsura, and Vice-Speaker Frank Nifon. The highlight of the first week's activities at this 20th Regular Session was the State of the District address by Truk District Administrator Juan Sablan.

Sablan reviewed the acitivites of the past 12 months and discussed future capital improvements and services. He called for teamwork to make the district government more responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people.

The DistAd said the new 175-bed Truk Hospital is now nearing completion along with 25 dispensaries which have been funded by the Truk Legislature and the Trust Territory Government Grantin-Aid programs.

He said that 12 out of 23 dispensaries are completed and the remaining 11 near completion.

In the area of construction, Sablan noted that about \$800,000 was made available to the Truk District in Fiscal Year 1970 supplemental funding for the construction of dormitory and classroom facilities.

A new communication system which will be equipped with sophisticated and modern equipment is now nearing completion. When finished, it will provide direct communication with any point outside the Trust Territory.

The DistAd said that an additional field trip vessel was acquired last January to increase the frequency of visits to the outer islands from once every nine weeks to once every two-and-a-half weeks.

With regard to economic development, Sablan said he has been assured by the Director of Resources and Development that an active search for funds in the amount of \$100,000 is underway for the construction of a reefer/iceplant/boat yard complex at Moen.

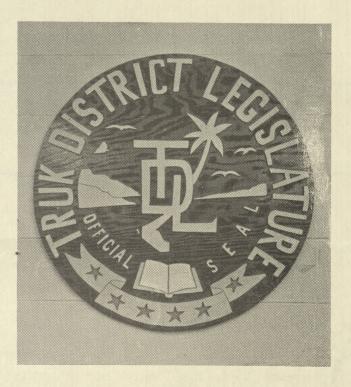
Another significant announcement was the anticipated authority in the district to approve Economic Development Loan Fund (EDLF) applications up to \$5,000.

"Once this authority is granted, it will greatly facilitate the granting of loans for small business ventures," he said.

Sablan also said plans are now being developed to provide utility services to the local sector as well as power in the outer islands.

He reported that the one million gallon water tank in Moen is now being completed and installation of deep wells is to begin soon.

Sablan reported that Satawan is soon to become district sub-center and similar sub-centers in each of the island groups will be established.



Tourism Committee to Meet

The joint Guam-Trust Territory Tourist Promotion Committee will be meeting in Saipan June 2-3. The committee was organized early in May to promote tourism in Guam and Micronesia. Representing Guam will be Frank F. Blas, Director of Commerce and chairman of the Guam Tourist Commission; Bob Jones, Harry Dangler, Greg Lujan, Earl Kloppenberg, Tagayoshi Yamaguchi and Warren Elsener, commission members.

The TT member are Frank Diaz, chairman of the Marianas District Tourist Commission, Elizabeth Udui, June Winham, and Norman P. Knott. The joint meeting will be held on June 2-3 at the Royal Taga Hotel and at the TT Department of Resources and Development.

Palau Construction Bids Opened

Bids for the \$2.5 million Palau capital improvement project were opened Wednesday, May 20. The low bid was submitted by Mitsui and Central Mills, a Japan-based firm. The program includes water and sewer projects, dormitories, classrooms and Public Safety building construction. Other companies which submitted bids were Aju Construction, Amelco International, American International, Black-Micro, Chris Berg, Thos. Guli, Ltd., Martin-Close-JHW, and Vinnel, Co.

THE NEW gasoline station in Truk District.

New District Judge in Palau

Omengkar A. Wally was sworn in May 8 as Associate District Judge for Palau. Trust Territory Associate Justice Kelly Turner administered the oath of office during a special session of the Palau District Court.

Judge Wally formerly held the post of Public Defender for Palau, a position he held for the past 10 years. He will fill the seat vacated by former Judge Haruo Remeliik who is now Palau Deputy District Administrator.



NOT ALL STUDENT GROUPS come to Washington, D.C., to protest. These Micronesians from Suomi College, in Michigan, spent some time in the nation's capitol visiting key Congressmen and Senators to discuss present and future development of Micronesia. From left, Jerry DeMotts, a Suomi student who went with the group; Gabriel Camacho, Saipan; John Reyes, Saipan; Antonio Barcinas, Saipan; Jose Espinosa, Guam; Herman Bermudas, Saipan; Lucas Ifamalik, Ponape; Johnathan Joseph, Palau; Michael Caldwell, advisor. Suomi photo

Mobil Oil Aids District Stations

Mobil Oil Micronesia, Inc., recently has constructed a gas station in the Truk District. The company has set out to do this for all the Districts in Micronesia, it was announced by Hiroshi L. Tarkong, Area Co-Ordinator, Mobile Oil Micronesia.

The first station the company constructed was the Frank Aldan Gas Station in Susupe Saipan. The \$4,000 service stations are financed and constructed directly by Mobil Oil Micronesia. The owner repays the loan by giving the company \$.02 on every gallon he sells to the public. Plans are now underway to start the construction of gas stations in the Marshalls, Ponape, Palau and Yap Districts.



A PIECE OF STONE MONEY from Yap found its way to Urbana, Illinois, this spring as part of a cultural exhibit featuring "Highlights in the History of Man." The young lady is Chris Otten, a high school senior. -- Ken Bickford photo --

Soc Security Job to Rehuher

Victor O. Rehuher, 28, has been appointed Palau District Social Security Administrator. Rehuher is the first of five District Social Security Administrators to be hired by TT Social Security Administrator Harry U. Brown. Rehuher previously had been accountant and assistant manager for Micronesian Construction Company (MCC) in Palau.

Concerning Social Security collections, Brown said that new avenues of investing the TT Social Security funds are being studied. Recently, a substantial amount was put into a Small Business Administration guaranteed loan.

Computers May Be Used in TT Land Registry System

Recommendations for an automated land registry system for Micronesia are being prepared in connection with the land cadaster project. On hand to help set up this program was Barry N. Grant, president of Electronic Calculating Services, Inc. of Los Angeles. Grant recently completed a tenday visit in Saipan as a consultant to the division of lands and surveys. He is a specialist in the use of electronic computing for design of subdivisions and the registration of land ownership.

Once ownership of land parcels has been determined under the cadaster project, information about land ownership and land transactions will be recorded in land registries in each district as well as in a central registry in Saipan. Grant has set up similar registries for counties in California, and is advising the TT land officials on how to organize a system that will accomodate the various land tenure patterns in Micronesia. The system he is recomending will be designed so that at a later date the whole registry could be computerized, Grant said.

Grant has a degree in mechanical engineering and did graduate work in land title law. He is one of the pioneers in the use of elecronic computers in surveying and subdivision design. He also developed the "Pho-Cal System" which serves hundreds of engineering firms throughout the United States, giving them access via telephone to complex computer equipment. While in Saipan, Grant worked with Marianas Senior Land Commissioner James Johnson as well as with Headquarters officials studying existing mapping and land record systems.

Supply Officers Meet at Headquarters

The TT District Supply Officers Conference convened Tuesday, May 19, in Saipan. The conference was attended by district supply officers and headquarters personnel. Primary agenda items included district budgets, problem areas in district supply and procurement systems and other matters.

The conferees were guests of the Saipan Rotary Club at a dinner meeting Tuesday night and attended other social functions during the week hosted by headquarters staff members.

District supply officers attending the four-day conference were Eloy Q. Babauta (LNO-Guam); Juan B. Tudela (Marianas); Ray G. Weinrich (Yap); Jesus S. DL Guerrero (Palau); Frank D. Quan and Masaichy Stephen (Truk); Jules M. Henrickson (Ponape); Harry N. Schanck (Marshalls) and Bobby H. Thompson (Ebeye).



PRIVATE LAND PARCELS are being marked by monuments in the San Roque and Tanapag areas of Saipan. Here at Atsugo Beach, Tanapag, landowners Juan F. Palacios and Jose S. Camacho assist the surveyors in locating the exact place to put the monument as land registration team members Jose S. Sablan and Pablo Igitol look on. Left to right: Palacios, Sablan, surveyors Nicolas Songsong and Ignacio Ada (bending over), Camacho, Felipe Ruak of the Land Staff, Igitol and Surv. Assistant Henry Arurang.

Civic Action Team to Palau

The first contingent of the 13-man US Navy Civic Action Team for Palau began arriving in mid-May. In Palau, where aircraft arrivals are rather infrequent, the team's landing, involving four aircraft, was very impressive. Six Seabee personnel accompanied the flights carrying more than 120,000 tons of equipment. These included a utility truck and two dump trucks, a concrete mixer, a road grader, a welding machine, a water trailer and assorted construction material. This was the first time since the war that a massive air operation involving military personnel and equipment has been conducted in Palau District.

Lt. Jack A. Werner of Wapheton, North Dakota, who is commanding the Palau Civic Action Team said all of his men and the majority of the equipment will be airlifted to Palau. "Eventually, we will have used a total of 15 flights to complete this operation," he said. "This will perhaps be the only Civic Action Team operation in Micronesia that will rely almost entirely on airlifts."

Earlier in May, a Navy landing craft brought to Koror a large bulldozer and a heavy crane that could not be loaded on the planes. The Palau Civic Action Team will begin working on the MicrOlympic site with other assignments to follow after completion of the project.

MILI Assists Ponape Dock Project

For the first time, a large ocean going vessel has been able to discharge cargo directly ashore in Ponape. The great aid to cargo handling came from the speedy conversion of a 210 foot steel barge into a fixed shoreside dock.

The operation, a joint effort of MILI, the Ponape Transportation Board and Ponape's Public Works Department, was financed by M(LI as an interim dock project while awaiting construction of a permanent port facility by the government.

For the past year, MILI had been using this barge to carry cargo from ships at anchor to the Kolonia wharf. MILI Ponape manager John Tait conceived the idea of beaching the barge on the shore and filling in around it so that it could be used by vehicles from the side on shore and by ships tying up on the side projecting into the water.

After the decision to go ahead was made, the project was completed in the three days between the departure of the Gunners Knot and the arrival of the Pacific Paul. On Monday, Apr. 27, the Pa-



THE PACIFIC PAUL ties up at the new temporary barge-pier in Ponape to inaugurate the service.

cific Paul became the first vessel to tie up to the new temporary dock. With the use of new trucks purchased by MILI, the cargo was unloaded in a direct flow from the ship to the warehouse without the formerly cumbersome handling of material on and off a barge.

Know Your Social Security

- Q. Why do we have a Social Security Program?
- A. Social Security is something almost every country in the world has for its citizens. The Congress of Micronesia passed a Social Security law for Micronesia which started July 1, 1968. The program provides some older people with money when they no longer have an income. Also it provides pension to widows and young children of workers who are covered by Social Security.
- Q. You mean it takes the place of a man's salary when he stops working after age 60?
- A. No, not exactly, Social Security is not set up to take the full place of a person's income. It is designed to provide enough money for the basic items of life, such as food. Before Social Security, if a person stopped working, his income stopped, now at least there will be some money coming in.
- G. What are some of the benefits to people under Social Security?
- A. Starting in July, if a person is at least 60 years old and has worked under Social Security for two

- years, he can stop work if he wants to, and collect money every month from Social Security.
- Q. How long will a person keep getting his money?
- A. Every month as long as he lives and is not working some place for wages.
- Q. If a person is over age 60 and thinking of retiring from work, how can he find out how much money he will get and what he must do to get it?
- A. He should go to the District Personnel Office or call or come to the Social Security Office. We can give him the forms to fill out and also find out how much money he will be getting.
- Q. Is anybody else able to get money from Social Security?
- A. Yes, widows and young children of workers who die, can usually get some money. As a matter of fact, we are already paying money every month to eleven widows of workers who died last year. If a wage earner dies, the representative of the family should contact Personnel or our office for information.

People

Pedro Igitol has been promoted to Acting Deputy Chief, Procurement and Supply at the TT Headquarters. This is in line with the government policy to place qualified Micronesians in positions of responsibility.

Igitol received his primary education on Saipan. He also attended Father Duenas Memorial High School on Guam. After that he came back to Saipan to work for the US Naval Technical Training Unit (NTTU) as a Supply Procurement Assistant. He has held jobs as Sergeant for Security Force in Saipan, and Manager for Mobil Oil in Truk and Saipan. Igitol and his wife, Margaret, have four children.

Jim Manke, veteran Honolulu radio and television newsman, has joined the TT Government's Public Information Office as an Information Specialist. Manke, 29, was for the past five years with KHVH Radio and Television, the last twoyears as news director for television. He also taught radio personnel and training at the East-West Center in 1964-65. Manke and his wife have three children, Christopher, 3; Jessica, 2 and Caroline, 8 months.

Jose R. Lifoifoi has been appointed TT Government Housing Officer, Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman, announced. Lifoifoi, 32, succeeds Gregorio S. Calvo, Management Analyst Officer, who is transferring to another department Lifoifoi most recently was with the Mariana Islands Housing Authority. His government service includes staff positions with the Mariana District Economic Development Department from 1966 to 1968 and with the TT Government Budget Office from 1963 to 1966. His wife, Amalia, is secretary to Leo A. Falcam, TT Executive Officer. The Lifoifois have two children, Josephine, 2, and Ignacia, 1 year old.

Elias H. Thomas, Ponape, has been appointed administrative officer of the Broadcast Division, TT Government's Department of Public Affairs. He was formerly station manager of Radio Station WSZD in Ponape.

His government service includes previous positions in the Ponape Land Management Office and the Ponape District Finance Office. In addition, Thomas is the former president of the Ponape Community Action Agency, and is a board member of the Mesenieng Credit Union, Ponape, He and his wife, Misko, have five children.

Briefly

Micronesia will soon have an Office for the Aging to provide: care of elderly people who cannot take care of themselves, it was announced by the TT Government Community Development Division. More than \$70,000, appropriated by the US Congress under the Older American Act, will be made available to the TT for the remaining fiscal year and an additional \$70,000 for Fiscal Year 1971, beginning July 1, 1970.

Charles P. Weikel, associate Regional Commissioner on Aging, Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, San Francisco, came to Saipan in mid-May to confer with TT Government officials regarding the establishment of the office. Initially, the Community Development Division will administer the program, first establishing procedures whereby private and public non-profit organizations in all the six Districts can apply for funds.

Continental Airlines/Air Micronesia this month entered its third year of service in the TT.To mark the occassion, the airline has announced additional flights to Truk and Ponape. Starting June 5, there will be three flights to the Eastern Districts of Truk and Ponape: Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Also, the DC-6 serving Palau, Yap, Guam and Saipan has been fully reconditioned and resumed service several weeks ago. Continental Air Micronesia's Travel Lodge hotels in Truk and Palau are slated to open in September and December respectively, company officials said.

The U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) has recommended that Japan Air Lines (JAL) be granted a route from Japan to Guam via Saipan, according to news reports.

Examiner Edward T. Stodola noted that the airlines says it would not start service to Saipan until Jan. 1,1971.





LIFOIFOI





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Progress Reported as School Year Ends for 32,000

students are attending both private and public schools in the Trust Territory. As the school year ends this month, about 697 students in public and private high schools are expected to graduate. In the field of higher education, 608 Micronesian students are presently attending schools in the US mainland, the Philippines, Fiji, Hawaii, Guam and several other places in the world. This year, the TT is looking forward to 116 prospective graduates from colleges, universities and technical schools to be added to the manpower of this area.

Eight public senior high schools are presently serving the TT in widely dispersed areas. Each district center has a public high school; others are in Kusaie, Ponape; and in Ulithi, Yap. Church missions operate an additional eleven high schools, one in Saipan, two in the Marshalls, four in Palau, one in Ponape, and three in Truk. Plans now are underway to construct two more public high schools in Truk, one on Tol and the other in the Mortlocks. Also an additional high school is to be constructed on Jaluit in the Marshalls. Replacement high schools are now being constructed in Yap and Palau. A new high school for the Marianas was completed last year.

There are 190 public and 19 private elementary schools operating in the TT. Additional educational opportunities for hundreds of pupils who would not otherwise have been able to go beyond sixth grade have become available through addition of the seventh and eighth grades in many pub-

lic schools in the last four years. In the elementary area, about 100 new classrooms will be added this year.

In the field of higher education, a community college will be in full operation in Ponape this year. This will replace the Micronesian Teacher Education Center (MTEC). This institution will be granting Associate of Science degree (A.S).

The TT Government is aiming to provide educational opportunities for all Micronesians to develop their capacities. The educational system is concentrated in elementary and secondary levels. Recently a vocational school in Palau was added to provide courses in the trades and technical fields.



IN GRADUATION ROBES, these men pose for the traditional class picture at ceremonies Sunday, May 24, at Ponape Agriculture and Trade School, one of eleven private schools winding up the school year.

