HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS

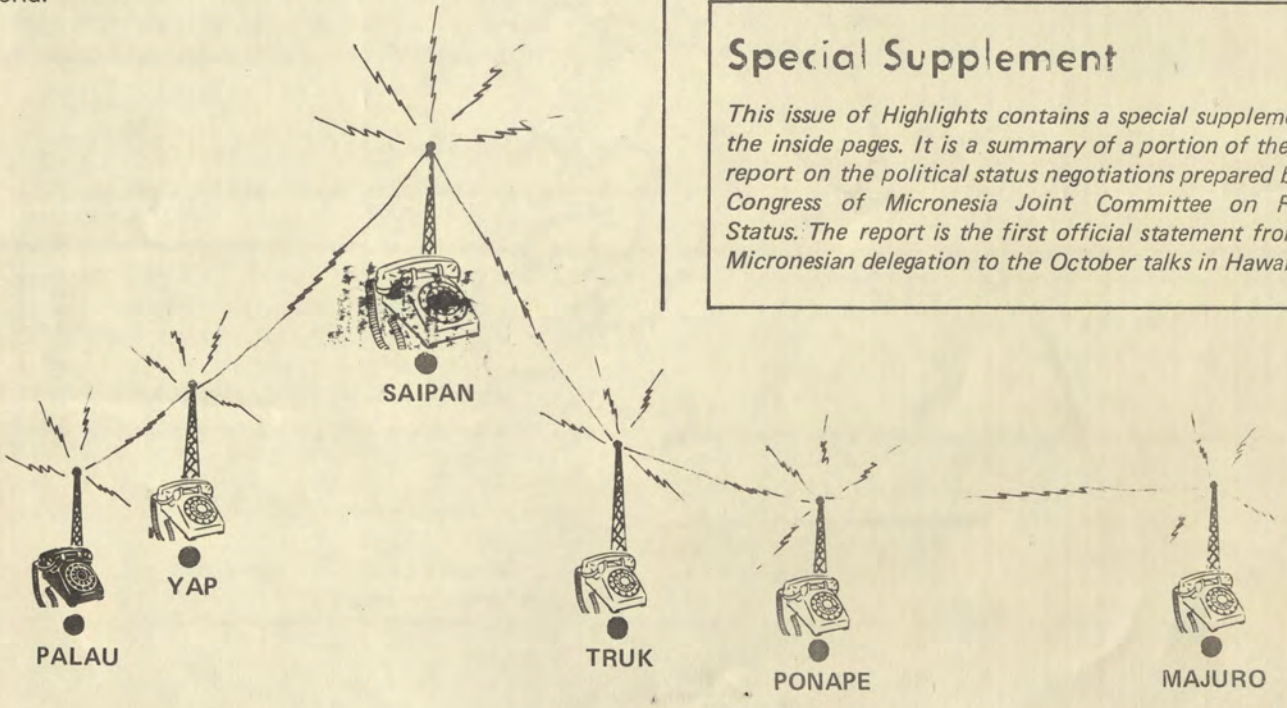
January 1, 1972

TT Communications Now Link All Districts

Wednesday, December 22, 1971, was an historic day for the Trust Territory's District Administrators and the High Commissioner's Office. For the first time, each of the six DistAds and the HiCom sat in their respective offices and took part in a seven-way telephone conference call. Palau District Administrator Thomas Remengesau joined his colleagues for the first time in what has become a weekly occurrence.

The link to Palau in the Trust Territory's new radiotelephone circuits has been established on a temporary basis as part of an accelerated program to accommodate improved communications requirements for the Congress of Micronesia session scheduled to begin January 10 in Palau. Only in the last few weeks has the final site selection procedure been completed for Palau's permanent communications facilities, and work will proceed at that location while the temporary facilities are in operation.

The new radiotelephone system in the Trust Territory now provides clear voice and teleprinter signals to and from Headquarters and all six districts in addition to providing circuits to telephone systems in all parts of the world.



Santa Sacrificed his sleigh for a boat (above) and for an airplane (see pages 4 and 5) to bring Christmas goodies to isolated Micronesian islanders. The Navy and the Air Force combined for this goodwill mission. See inside pages for more.

Special Supplement

This issue of Highlights contains a special supplement in the inside pages. It is a summary of a portion of the draft report on the political status negotiations prepared by the Congress of Micronesia Joint Committee on Future Status. The report is the first official statement from the Micronesian delegation to the October talks in Hawaii.

Senator, Representative Goldwater to Visit

Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona and his son, Representative Barry Goldwater Jr., of California, will visit Saipan next week as part of an official congressional tour of the Western Pacific and Antarctica. They will arrive on Saipan Thursday morning, Jan. 6 to spend the day, returning to Guam late that afternoon by special military aircraft.

According to official communications, the purpose of the visit will be to meet with Trust Territory High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston and members of his staff, and to tour the Island of Saipan. An exact itinerary for the visit was still being prepared as this issue of Highlights went to press.

Senator Goldwater and his son will fly directly from Washington, D.C. to Guam via Honolulu next week. After visiting Guam and Saipan they will fly to Manila and Auckland, New Zealand, and then to Christchurch, New Zealand, which is the staging area for the U.S. operations at the South Pole. From January 9 to 13 they will visit American installations in Antarctica, and then return to Washington via Los Angeles. Senator Goldwater is a member of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, and his son is a member of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics.

Senator Barry Goldwater was the Republican candidate for President of the United States in 1964, after serving two terms in the U.S. Senate. He is one of the best-known political leaders in the U.S. His son, Barry Goldwater, Jr., was elected to the House of Representatives from California in a special election in 1969, and was re-elected in 1970. He represents a district that includes parts of Los Angeles and Kern counties.

It has also been announced that two Interior Committee staff members from the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress will visit the Trust Territory next week on a fact-finding trip. The two are William Thomas, consultant to the Territorial Affairs subcommittee, and Charles Leppert, committee minority counsel. Plans for the two include stops on Saipan on January 7 and 8 and again on January 13 and 14. The pair will be on Guam and in Palau between Saipan stops.

The trip was reportedly scheduled by Committee Chairman Congressman Wayne Aspinall after attempts to reschedule a tour of the area by the territorial affairs subcommittee were unsuccessful. The subcommittee, headed by Representative Phillip Burton of California, was to have made a fact-finding tour of Micronesia, Guam and Amerian Samoa last month.

New UN Secretary General

The United Nations General Assembly concluded its 26th regular session on December 22, after appointing Kurt Waldheim of Austria as United Nations Secretary General for a five-year term beginning today.

Waldheim, aged 53, is a former Foreign Minister of Austria who is at present serving as his country's permanent representative to the United Nations. He succeeds U Thant of Burma, who served for more than ten years in the post.

Barry M. Goldwater, Sr.

Barry M. Goldwater, Jr.

Further Reward Offered

The Saipan Municipal Council has approved an ordinance appropriating $1,000 dollars in reward money for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for two recent fires on Saipan. The fires destroyed the chambers of the Congress of Micronesia and severely damaged Government House, the residence of High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston.

Half of the reward money will apply to the Congress fire, and the other half to the Government House fire. The Congress fire occurred in February of this year, and to date no suspects have been arrested.

The Saipan municipal ordinance was introduced by Manuel D. Muna. It expresses the deep shock and regret of the municipal council at the fires, and states that the council is anxious to see that the offenders are brought to justice as quickly as possible. Information on the crimes is to be brought to the attention of Carl Lindh, the Trust Territory Public Safety Superintendent.

The Trust Territory Government is also offering a reward, in the amount of $2,000 dollars, for information leading to the apprehension, arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the fire at Government House, making the total reward applying to that fire $2,500 dollars.

Haydon Donates Gifts

Governor John M. Haydon of American Samoa, who attended a recent meeting of the Pacific Islands Development Commission (PIDC) in Koror, Palau, has presented a number of gifts to a museum in American Samoa on behalf of the people of Micronesia.

The gifts were given to Governor Haydon during his recent trip. They have now been placed on display at the Government House Museum in the American Samoa capital. Included were stone money from Yap District, where Governor Haydon and his wife stopped briefly, and shell money, Palauan story boards and a Palauan belt which were presented to Mrs. Haydon by the Girl Scouts of Koror.

Governor and Mrs. Haydon again expressed their thanks to the people of Micronesia as they announced the presentation of these gifts to the museum in American Samoa.

Fourth Congress of Micronesia

The Second Regular Session of the Fourth Congress of Micronesia will convene in Koror, Palau, on Monday, January 11, 1972. The Senators and Representatives will thus begin a session which can last as long as 50 consecutive calendar days. If the session runs its full statutory limit, Congress will adjourn on Monday, February 28.

This will mark the first time that a regular session of the Congress has been held away from Saipan. The Congress met in Truk District in May of last year in special session to conclude the unfinished business of the First Regular Session. That session was abrutly ended when fire destroyed the Congress' chambers nine days short of the 50 day limit. The Congress leadership met in Majuro later in the year and chose Palau as the site for the Second Regular Session.

Opening week activities for the Congress have traditionally included addresses by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, and a report to the Congress on the State-of-the-Territory by the High Commissioner.

Senate

Member	Senatorial District
Rafel Moonfell	1st, Yap
Petrus Tun	1st, Yap
Andon Amaraich	2nd, Truk
Tosiwo Nakayama	2nd, Truk
Ambilos Ieshi	3rd, Ponape
Bailey Olter	3rd, Ponape
Roman Tmetuchl	4th, Palau
Lazarus Salii	4th, Palau
Amata Kabua	5th, Marshalls
Isaac Lanwi	5th, Marshalls
Olympio Borja	6th, Marianas
Edward Pangelinan	6th, Marianas

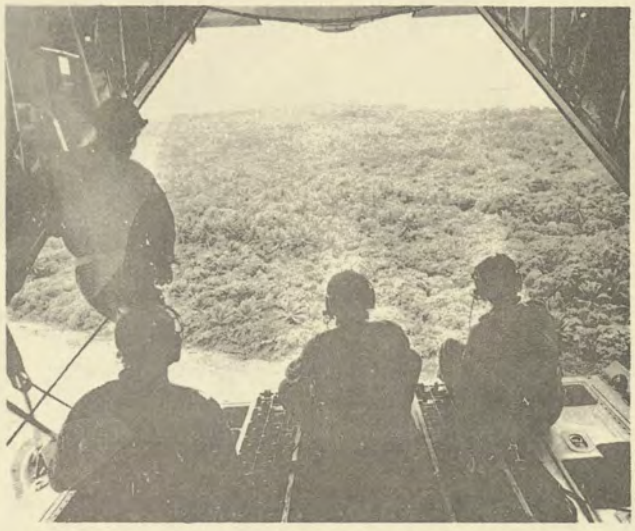
Amata Kabua, President of the Senate

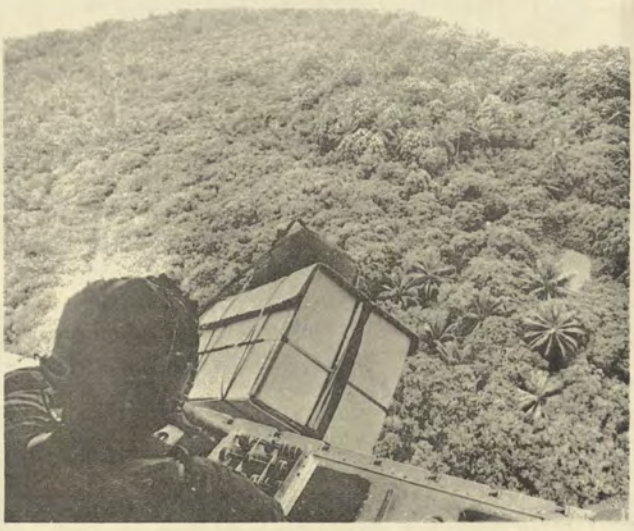
House of Representatives

Member	Representative District
Felipe Atalig	1st, Tinian, Rota, Southern Saipan
Carlos Shoda	2nd, Central Saipan
Herman Q. Guerrero	3rd, Northern Saipan Northern Marianas
Charles Domnick	4th, Northeast Marshalls
Henry Samuel	5th, Southeast Marshalls
Ekpap Silk	6th, Southwest Marshalls
Ataji Balos	7th, Northwest Marshalls
Timothy Olkeriil	8th, Western Babelthuap, Peliliu, Angaur, Southwest Islands
Polycarp Basilius	9th, Eastern Babelthuap
Tarkong Pedro	10th, Koror
Joab Sigrah	11th, Kusaie, Pingelap
Bethwel Henry	12th, Sokehs, Mokil, Ngatik, Nukuoro, Kapingamarangi
Heinrich Iriarte	13th, Uh, Net, Kolonia
Olter Paul	14th, Metalanim, Kiti
Raymond Setik	15th, Mortlocks
Sasauo Haruo	16th, Moen
Endy Dois	17th, Namoneas
Masao Nakayama	18th, Hall Islands, Namonuito, Western Islands
Hans Wiliander	19th, Faichuk
John Mangefel	20th, Yap Islands
John Rugulimar	21st, Ulithi, Woleai, and others

Bethwel Henry, Speaker, House of Representatives

The Air Force Spreads Christmas Cheer by Air . . .





The men of the 54th in action in the seri area, marked by islanders with colored flag over the side, with a static line attached t or three hundred feet from the ground, b at this one island where villagers rush to op

The Air Force completed Sunday (Dec. 19) its schedule of seven flights to the remote islands of Micronesia for Christmas Drop, 1971. It was the most extensive Christmas Drop schedule in the 19 Year history of the program.

By and large, the drop went off on schedule and with no mishaps. An occasional carton was dropped into the water or into a tree, but the waiting islanders recovered those wayward packages quickly and with no damage.

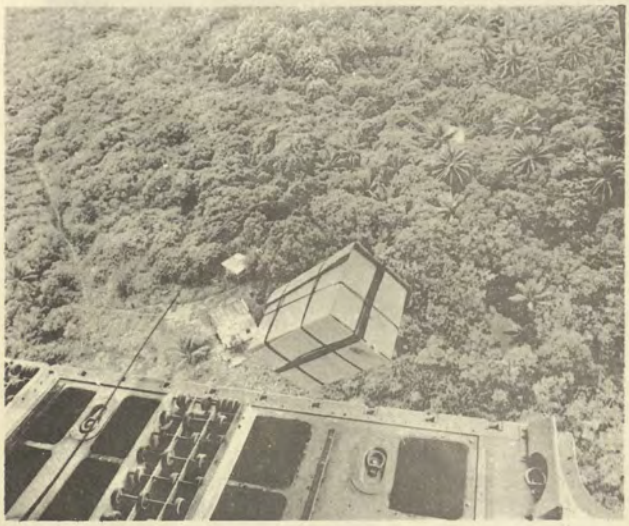
Donations for the Christmas Drop were again provided this year by the civilian and military communities on Guam. Personnel of the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and the 79th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron from Andersen Air Force Base packed the cartons, and provided the planes and crews for the drops themselves. The islands to be included in the drop schedule were recommended by the district administrators in the Marianas, Truk, Ponape, Yap and Palau districts, and virtually all of the islands recommended were included.

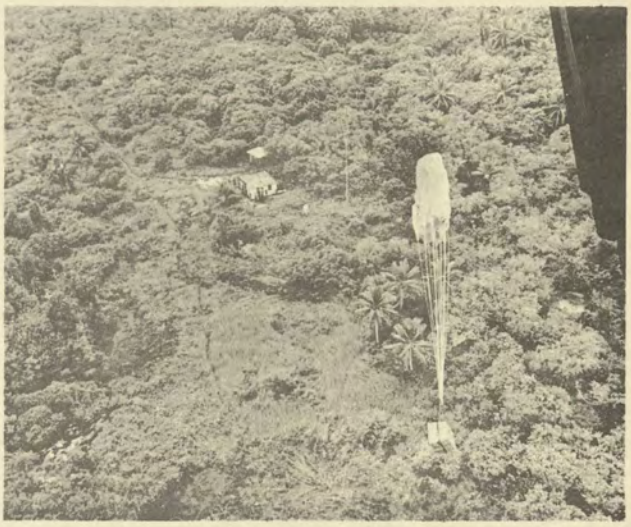
This year, for the first time since 1952, Kapingamarangi Atoll in Ponape District, the Trust Territory's southernmost atoll, was included in the drop. Kapingamarangi was the first Christmas Drop area 19 years ago, but had not been included since that time because of its distance from Guam. But the distance limits--normally 1,000 miles--were extended this year to include Kapingamarangi because of the severe drought that area has been experiencing. Four cartons were dropped there on Tuesday, December 14. Most of the other islands received either one or two cartons.

The cartons, weighing about 300 pounds each, contained a variety of practical and useful items, including food. A typical carton contained fishing hooks and line, machetes and other tools, first-aid kits, 40 volley balls, 40 softballs, clothing, household goods, toothpaste and toilet articles, books and toys. In addition, the islanders make good use of the cloth and lines from the parachutes, each of which is valued at more than $300.

This year more islands were covered by the Christmas Drop than ever before--about 40--and the total poundage dropped in the 66 separate cartons was greater than ever before--28,800 pounds. The only district not included in the drop was the Marshalls, because even with the extended range of the aircraft the Marshall Islands are too far from Guam. An Air Force officer explained that in order to receive U.S. Defense Department approval for the Christmas Drop program all trips must be from Guam to Guam, with no stops. In order to include the Marshalls a re-fueling stop would have to be made. The officer expressed the hope, however, that it will be possible to include the Marshalls in the program next year.

Grateful islanders spelled out a Christmas greeting to their airborne friends on the beach at the end of an isolated atoll.





s above over islands in Yap District--from left to right, they pick their spot carefully, watching for a cleared which are made from the parachutes from previous years' cargoes; at just the right moment, the carton goes ft and the parachute to make sure the 'chute opens when it's supposed to; the 'chutes billow open, just two o break the fall of the boxes--the box here is right on target; finally, the men relax, their work done, at least ns and distribute the Christmas cheer.

. . . While the Navy Travels by Sea

When he's not being airlifted by the 54th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron or traveling by sleigh, Santa Claus island hops in the rescue and salvage ship USS Grasp.

The Navy brought Santa to the northern Marianas Islands of Agrihan, Pagan and Alamagan in the few days before Christmas, when crewmen aboard the Grasp decided to turn a routine cruise into something a little more special. The community relations program of COMNAVMAR provided gifts and candy for distribution to the dozens of youngsters among the people who live on the isolated islands.

In addition to the gifts, the Navy men brought medical men from the Guam Naval Hospital to check youngsters and treat minor medical problems. On Pagan, a corpsman treated a young islander who had accidentally cut off his thumb. Also at that island, residents were invited on board the Grasp for a movie and refreshments after Santa had distributed all the gifts.

Through a stroke of luck, the Grasp was also able to provide the world's only Chamorro-speaking Santa, in the person of Petty Officer Vicente Baza of Merizo, Guam.

On the black sandy beach at Agrihan, Santa quickly won many youthful friends (left). At right, Cindy Burrell, a Peace Corps Volunteer, encourages a youngster from Pagan to thank Santa for his gift. (U.S. Navy Photos)

Roads are now opening up vast expanses of good agricultural land on Kusaie. At left, a bulldozer works at low tide gathering coral for road crews (right.) The end results of their can be seen in the photo at left below.

Kusaie Improvements: On-The-Move

The Trust Territory Government is beginning to focus more and more attention on Kusaie, one of Micronesia's largest and--according to many visitors--most beautiful islands. The island is currently the scene of major capital improvement projects that hold the promise of dramatically improving the living conditions of the people of Kusaie and access to the island by outsiders.

During the past month on Saipan, public works and planning officials from headquarters and Ponape District met to discuss these projects, which include an airfield, a new hospital and high school, a power plant, and roads that are opening up vast areas of agricultural land and scenic attractions. The projects are the direct result of a master plan for Kusaie Island, prepared in 1970 by Hawaii Architects and Engineers.

In that master plan it was noted that Kusaie "has not been an important center under American Administration." The plan also pointed out, however, that major capital improvements were contemplated and "the total expenditure of United States funds on and for Kusaie is projected to take a significant increase." That increase is now being felt on the island which, with 42 square miles and some 3,800 people, is the fourth largest in the Trust Territory and one of the most populated.

Simeon Diaz, Kusaie Public Works Officer, described some of the current Kusaie projects in a recent interview. He said when he arrived on Kusaie two years ago the first priority was roads leading to farm areas and connecting villages. The main center of population, Lelu, is now connected to Melem and Utwe to the south and Tafunsak to the north by road, and according to Diaz the opening up of previously isolated farm areas has generated a return movement to Kusaie by Kusaieans who had moved to Ponape or to the Marshall Islands.

Currently Diaz and his public works crews are in the midst of site preparation for the hospital, high school and power plant. All will be located in the Tofol area, near Lelu. Work on the causeway connecting Lelu island with the main islands, to widen and improve it, is also underway. A new courthouse and agricultural station are also contemplated for the Tofol area.

Meanwhile, across the island at Okat, engineering work is being carried out on the site of the new airfield. The Okat site was recommended by the master plan for both an airfield and an improved harbor, since Okat harbor is considered superior to Lelu harbor for shipping. A road connecting Tafunsak and Okat will be built. Initially a 3,500 foot runway is contemplated to provide Kusaie with emergency aircraft landing facilities. The island presently has no runway, and this has hindered economic development. It is hoped that eventually enough funds will be available to construct a full 7,000 foot runway.

When that day comes, it seems certain that Kusaie will become one of the most popular of Micronesia's islands with visitors. A high, volcanic island with abundant rainfall, Kusaie has beautiful sandy beaches, and according to Diaz, "there is good hunting, fishing and lobstering." Located just over 300 miles east and south of Ponape, Kusaie is isolated enough to appeal to tourists who want to "get away from it all." It has few visitors now, and only one, three-room hotel, but with the development activity now contemplated or underway it is only a matter of time until Kusaie is "discovered" by the traveler.

Roads such as the one pictured below in the Tofol area of Kusaie are the result of capitol improvement priorities developed over the past two years. At right below, a boat enters the Kusaie dock facility at Lelu where improvements are underway. Eventually, the harbor facility will be moved to Okat where a joint harbor and airfield development project have been planned.

Hummel Completes Tour

Ambassador Arthur Hummel, Jr., concluded a three-week visit to the Trust Territory last month. The Ambassador visited each of the six districts beginning with the Marianas on Nov. 30.

The trip was a familiarization tour for Hummel, who is the director of the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations in Washington. He is also the chief assistant to Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams for the negotiations with the Congress of Micronesia on future status.

Prior to leaving Majuro, Ambassador Hummel issued a statement on his visit. He said:

"On my departure from Majuro after three weeks in Micronesia, I want to take this last opportunity on Micronesian soil to express my deepest appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to the many people and leaders of Micronesia who have done so much to make this visit the highlight of my many years of travel outside of the U.S. Micronesia's hospitality is world famous, and justifiably so as I have learned in these past three weeks. It would be impossible to express adequate thanks to all of the people of Micronesia who have been so generous with their time and hospitality, but I wish to extend my especial thanks to the High Commissioner, to all members of the Congress of Micronesia, to all six district administrators and their staffs, and to the many officers and members of district legislatures and municipal councils who have devoted so much of their time and effort to assisting me during my stay."

Heine, Salii to Seminar

Two Micronesian leaders have been selected to attend the sixth Waikane Seminar in Papua-New Guinea in May. Congress of Micronesia Senator Lazarus Salii of Palau, and Carl Heine, Staff Director for the Congress' Joint Committee on Future Status, will each present papers at the seminar, which is sponsored by the University of Papua-New Guinea in Port Moresby.

The seminar brings together leaders from many of the emerging nations of the Pacific to exchange papers and participate in discussions on developments in their countries. The occasion will also afford an opportunity for Salii and Heine to observe political developments in New Guinea, which like Micronesia is a Trust Territory of the United Nations.

The papers to be presented by the two men will deal with the subjects: Political Development in Micronesia; and Self-respect and National Identity. For Heine, who is on leave from his position as Deputy District Administrator in Yap to work with the status committee, this will be his second time at the Waikane Seminar. Senator Salii, who is chairman of the joint committee, will be attending the seminar for the first time.

Senator Salii is due to return to Micronesia on Jan. 4 from six months of graduate study at the University of California at Berkerley. While in California he has been working on a book dealing with Micronesian political development.

The photos below indicate considerable progress in Truk District's efforts to rebuild after last May's disastrous Typhoon Amy. In the picture at left, an Air Micronesia plane points to the new temporary terminal facilities at the airfield, where "RAN ANNIM" now greets arriving passengers. The terminal buildings, built with disaster relief funds, will serve Truk until construction can begin on a permanent complex of buildings to house modern airport facilities. At right, a photographer snapped this shot of typhoon shelter houses built at Ulul in the Namonuito atoll, where virtually all structures were swept away. Nearly a dozen typhoon houses can be seen in the photo, taken during last month's Christmas airdrop flight to the island.

A Gift for the President

During the White House Conference on Aging, which ended in early December, a gift from the Congress of Micronesia was presented to President Richard Nixon. The Palauan storyboard, especially carved for the President, was accepted by Dr. Robert Finch, Special Counselor to the President. Pictured above at the presentation, from left: Dwight Heine, Special Consultant to the High Commissioner, head of the Micronesian delegation to the Conference; Benigno Sablan, delegate from the Marianas; Isaac Ngiraeluolw, Trust Territory Office on Aging; Eskiel Moses (partially hidden), Special Youth Delegate; Chief Ibedul Ngoriakl, paramount chief from Palau; Dr. Finch; Congress of Micronesia Senator Olympio T. Borja; Sabi William, Council on Aging, Truk; William Jackson, Community Development Division; William Allen, Chief, Community Development Division; Mamoro Nakamura, Acting Legislative Counsel, Congress of Micronesia.

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SAIPAN JAN 11 '72 M.I. U.S.POSTAGE .22 P.D. 532206

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HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS

[Jan. 1972]

Special Supplement to Highlights

The Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia has prepared a draft report on the recent status talks in Hawaii. The report, including an analysis of the U.S. position in relation to the four "non-negotiable" principles laid down by the Congress in 1970, was being prepared last week for distribution throughout the Trust Territory.

The draft report is the first official statement and analysis of the U.S. position released to the public by the Micronesian side in the status negotiations. It follows a number of statements prepared and released by John Dorrance, a member of the U.S. delegation.

In its draft report the Micronesian joint committee concludes that the United States has basically agreed to only one of the four principles. There has been partial agreement on two others, and no agreement at all on the fourth. The four principles are: That sovereignty in Micronesia resides in the people of Micronesia and their duly constituted government; that the people of Micronesia possess the right of self-determination and may therefore choose independence or self-government in free association with any nation or organization of nations; that the people of Micronesia have the right to adopt their own constitution and to amend, change or revoke any constitution or governmental plan at any time; and that free association should be in the form of a revocable compact, terniable unilaterally by either party.

In the view of the joint committee, the U.S. has basically agreed to only the third of these four principles--the one dealing with the constitution. There has been partial agreement on the first two; and the fourth--dealing with unilateral termination--"has been rejected by the United States delegation."

Sovereignty

Concerning the first principle, the draft report of the joint committee states that "The United States has partially agreed with this principle, particularly with regard to control of land and control of Micronesia's own internal affairs. The United States has not agreed to the principle with regard to foreign affairs and defense.

"The United States has agreed to give up its power of eminent domain in Micronesia if two conditions are met. First, is that the Micronesian Government would guarantee that the United States would have indefinite use of certain specified land in the Palau, Marshalls and Marianas Districts prior to termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. Second, is that the new Micronesian Government would provide speedy and efficient means to negotiate temporary use of lands by the United States in emergency situations. If these two requirements were met, the United States would agree that it would have no legal rights to exercise eminent domain in Micronesia after termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. If these two conditions were not met, the United States would continue to exercise its power of eminent domain.

"The United States agreed that Micronesia would have complete control over internal affairs after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, and this principle would be made part of the compact (of association). However, Micronesia could not govern her internal affairs so as to violate the compact. The compact, as proposed by the United States, would have a higher status than the constitution of Micronesia itself. This clearly represents some limitation on Micronesia's sovereignty. However, since Micronesia would agree to this limitation in the compact, the act of agreement would be an act of sovereignty.

"The question of sovereignty regarding control of foreign affairs and defense has not been agreed to by the United States. The United States position with regard to control of foreign affairs and defense is that the United States would have complete control in this area. One of the most important attributes of sovereignty is that the sovereign has control over its relations with foreign countries. Although the position of the joint committee is that the Micronesian Government would permit the United States to act on its behalf in certain areas of foreign affairs and defense, the committee cannot agree that Micronesia would have no determinative voice in the important area. The committee has concluded that if Micronesia has no control over foreign affairs and defense, it cannot be truly sovereign."

The committee report concludes, therefore, that there has only been partial agreement on this principle.

Self-determination

Principle number two concerns self-determination, and here again the committee finds only partial agreement. The report reads, "The United States Government position on the act of self-determination is that the proposed compact, once it is agreed upon, will be submitted in a plebiscite to the people of Micronesia. This would constitute a sovereign act of self-determination in the United States view. The joint committee acknowledged this principle by stating 'that the people of Micronesia will have the right to choose their own government, their own future political status, through a sovereign act of self-determination.'

"Therefore, the issue of self-determination has been partially accepted by the United States. No change in status will occur without the consent of the Micronesian people. However, the United States did not agree that Micronesians have the absolute right to self-determination by choosing any status they desire. The United States only agreed that no change in status would be forced upon the Micronesian people. The United States would not agree to accept any status the Micronesian people might choose, such as independence, if the Micronesian people were to choose a status that the United States did not fine acceptable. In other words, the United States agreed that the Micronesian people could choose any status that was acceptable to the United States."

The report concludes that here again the principle has not been completely agreed to by the United States.

Constitution

Regarding the Micronesian constitution, the report states: "The basic position of the United States with respect to the constitution of Micronesia is that it be consistent with the compact between Micronesia and the United States.

"The constitution would *not* have to be consistent with the United States constitution. Micronesia would be free to amend or change its constitution at any time, so long as such amendment was not inconsistent with the compact.

"Further, the United States indicated that the Micronesian constitution would have to protect certain individual rights considered to be 'fundamental' by the United States. Therefore, the United States proposes that there be two limitations on the Micronesian constitution, the compact and protection of fundamental rights. Otherwise, Micronesia would be free to adopt and change any system of government desired. In the view of the joint committee, this represents a basic agreement on this principle, in that the Micronesian people would be free to structure their constitution and government so as to best meet their needs."

Termination

The final principle, involving unilateral termination, represents the most fundamental disagreement between Micronesia and the United States in the wake of the Hawaii talks. The joint committee draft report states: "The United States has refused to agree to this principle. The United States maintains that termination by mutual consent is the only way to safeguard the interests of both sides to the compact. However, it is difficult for the joint committee to understand how Micronesia can maintain its indentity and continue to control its internal affairs under a relationship which would require United States consent for its termination.

"Furthermore, the joint committee maintains, that the ability of Micronesia to unilaterally terminate its relationship with the United States is an essential protection for a small nation that wishes to maintain its identity while in a relationship with a large and strong nation."

"In broad principles, this is the major issue that separates the United States and the Micronesian delegations. The United States delegation indicated that the executive branch of the United States Government may not be able to persuade the United States Congress to appropriate money for an area where there is no assurance of the length or period of time that the United States will be in that area.

"The problem with the United States position is that it really does not give Micronesia any more control over its future than the present system where the United States must consent to the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. The United States would still have the final control over any change in Micronesia's status. Therefore, this principle has been rejected by the United States delegation."

The draft report will form the basis of the final report of the joint committee to the entire Congress of Micronesia in January in Palau. The fourth round of status talks is tentatively scheduled for Palau immediately after the Congress session.