

Wakako

HIGHLIGHTS



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

April 15, 1976

"Good Potential For Development," Experts Say

The five districts of the Trust Territory, and the newly designated district of Kusaie, are now drawing up plans for their long range development.

Aided by experts from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), district leaders hope to solve the problems which have slowed development in the territory since the end of World War II and plan for future development.

UNDP is the main financing agency in the United Nations and now provides technical assistance to about 120 nations. The U.N. agency is involved in providing assistance to help improve the food-production, fish-catching, industrial, manpower training abilities in many areas of the world, like Micronesia.

UNDP's Project Manager in Micronesia, Mr. Robert Trusk, said, "A development plan must always start with a statement from the public and district leaders as to what kind of country they would like to have in the future."

Trusk, said leaders must consider what kind of benefits the people expect and what role the area will play in the international community in the future.

The preliminary details of Micronesia's development plan may be worked out by May, after district leaders identify both the short-range and long-range goals for their economic and social development.

"The first step, Trusk said, is to make an "Indicative Plan" or outline of the overall goals, objectives and priorities. He said these must be approved by the districts as well as by Congress of Micronesia.

The second step is the preparation of a "Comprehensive Development Plan" which will be a detailed presentation of the Indicative Plan. This step could begin as early as August 1976, and last for about one year.

The tentative date for putting the plan into effect—if approved by the districts and Congress—is October 1976.

How can Micronesia benefit by a development plan?

Trusk said if the development plan is implemented, Micronesia could become a "self-supporting" nation in the long-run. This means Micronesia would be able to produce enough income from its own land and sea resources to support itself and purchase its needs from other nations.

Recently, about 15 experts from the United Nations—all highly trained specialists in his own field—visited the five districts. Each expert met with local leaders to learn what kind of development they would like



Robert
Trusk,
UNDP's
Project
Manager
in
Micronesia

Micronesia to have when the trusteeship agreement is ended. They studied the potential for developing agriculture, fisheries, tourism and other industries, as well as examining the services now provided for the people of Micronesia by the Trust Territory Government, such as health, education and training.

The U.N. experts identified a major problem of spending too much money for the operating costs of the government, and not enough money being spent on "income-producing" activities.

"We believe more resources must immediately be put in the directly productive sectors of the economy, such as agriculture, marine resources, manufacturing, tourism and other sectors."

An agriculture expert from the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, for example, predicted that agriculture could play a "major role" in developing Micronesia's economy. The expert said rice growing projects may be recommended for Palau and Ponape,

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More on U.N. Development Program

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which could replace over \$2 million worth of rice now being imported into Micronesia each year. Similar recommendations were mentioned by the experts in the areas of raising livestock, vegetable and fruit farming, forestry, marine resource development and other areas.

"All the districts have good potential for producing fruit and vegetable products," said Jandra Arulpragsam, a U.N. expert with over 14 years experience assisting developing countries. He said a similar industry has been successfully developed in the Cook Islands, a former trust territory which now has a free association status with New Zealand, its former administering authority.

As for potential in the area of fisheries, Trusk said the seas surrounding Micronesia "are rich in marine life, which, if converted into consumption goods, can raise income levels substantially." He added, however, that at present Micronesia may require assistance in technology, investment and trained manpower from other nations before a large-scale deep sea fishing industry can be developed successfully.

Potential in industrial development also exists, Trusk noted, although he felt such possibilities and resources now available are not being explored and developed as they could be.

"From this point of view, we can see that land resources have been grossly underdeveloped and underutilized in Micronesia." Trusk said he personally felt that the future economic development of Micronesia will "depend very much on its land resources."

Land, he said, has a "tremendous potential" for producing more copra, more food crops such as fruits and vegetables. He said food processing industries could be developed and create job opportunities in the districts.

Tourism is another source of income for Micronesia, he said. But he indicated many district leaders believe tourism should be developed with caution so that maximum benefits could be obtained locally without a high "social cost" and damage to the environment, which has been the case in many other areas.

Micronesia's development plan for the districts is jointly funded by UNDP and the Congress of Micronesia. The first phase, or "Indicative Plan," is expected to be considered by the Congress of Micronesia during a special session this summer.

Trusk said UNDP will continue to provide assistance to Micronesia during the next five years. Trusk described his role as "the vanguard of what hopefully will be a more enlarged United Nations technical assistance program in the Trust Territory."

Trusk said there are many organizations in the United Nations "system" which would be prepared to offer assistance to Micronesia in its development efforts, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and its five training and research institutions (Development-planning, government administration, statistical training, regional planning, social and welfare development). He said the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) provides assistance in manpower training and management development in addition to many other U.N. organizations.

"The most important U.N. agency for developing countries is UNDP, which is financing technical assistance in developing countries to the extent of over \$300 million a year," said Trusk.

UNDP provided an initial \$149,000 for the first phase of the Micronesia project. The Congress of Micronesia contributed a total of \$170,000 so far for its planning efforts.

Congress of Micronesia officials feel the development plan will help to answer questions from various members of the U.S. Congress concerning whether a plan presently exists to develop Micronesia with stated goals and objectives.

"One of the primary goals of the plan is to establish a self-supporting government in Micronesia," said Trusk, "regardless of what future status is chosen."

Conover Named New Assistant AG

Lee M. Conover, of Los Angeles, California, has been hired as Assistant Attorney General for the Trust Territory, according to Richard I. Miyamoto, Attorney General.

According to Miyamoto, Conover has had considerable experience in many areas, Conover retired from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office after more than 21 years service there, 14 of which were as a Law Enforcement Officer working in the Department of Corrections, Patrol Division, Detective Division and Civil Division.

He received his law degree from the Southwestern University in Los Angeles and was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of California and the U.S. District Court Central District. He is a member of the American Bar Association, Orange County Bar

Association, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Lawyers Club of Los Angeles County and Association of Deputy District Attorney.

The new Assistant Attorney General has lectured on Criminal Law and has extensive training in Police procedures, report writing, narcotic investigation, criminalistics, and police organization and management.

For the past five and a half years, Conover has been a Criminal Trial Lawyer for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office trying all types of felony cases. Between trials he would evaluate police reports for filing complaints, give lectures, interview witnesses, evaluate scientific evidence to be used in criminal cases, liaison between the District Attorney's Office and other police agencies, do legal research, prepare legal pleadings, motions and statements on appeal.

Conover has taken part in approximately 100 jury trials and over 700 court trials. He is married and has two sons.

Reapportionment Bill Becomes Law

A measure to provide for the reapportionment of the House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia became Public Law 6-88 on April 8 when the Trust Territory Executive Officer took no action on it. Executive Officer Juan A. Sablan was serving as Acting Deputy High Commissioner while Peter T. Coleman was in Palau.

The bill, authored by Palau Representative Polycarp Basilius, was allowed to become law because there are some "legal issues" in the act that have "never been tested in the Trust Territory Courts..." stated N. Neiman Craley, Jr., Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs, in a letter to the Congress leadership.

Craley explained that the reapportionment scheme proposed by the bill was based on "home area" population, or "the place to which the person eventually plans to return." Adoption of "home area" population as a standard for reapportionment is "tantamount" to subscribing to "domicile" rather than "residence" as the basis for eligibility of voters and is, "in our opinion, in direct conflict with certain portions of the Trust Territory Code," Craley told the Congress leadership in his letter.

Under the reapportionment law, there will be 22 members of the House. Kusaie District will have one; Palau remains unchanged with three; Yap also remains the same with two as does Ponape with four; the Marshalls will gain another seat for a total of five; and Truk will gain two more for a total of seven representatives.

Under the new law, Title 43 of the Trust Territory Code is repealed in its entirety to read as follows.

Marshall Islands District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of Bikar Atoll, Taka Atoll, Taongi Atoll, Utirik Atoll, Likiep Atoll, Jemo Island, Ailuk Atoll, Mejir Island, Wotje Atoll, Erikub Atoll, Maloelap Atoll, and Aur Atoll.

—Second Representative District shall be composed of Majuro Atoll, Arno Atoll, Mili Atoll, and Knox Atoll.

—Third Representative District shall be composed of Jaluit Atoll, Namorik Atoll, Kili Island, and Ebon Atoll.

—Fourth Representative District shall be composed of Lib Island, Namo Atoll, Jabwot Island, and Ailinglapalap Atoll.

—Fifth Representative District shall be composed of Ailinginea Atoll, Bikini Atoll, Enewetak Atoll, Rongelap Atoll, Rongerik Atoll, Ujeland Atoll, Wotho Atoll, Ujae Atoll, Lea Atoll, and Kwajalein Atoll.

Palau District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of the municipalities of Ngardmau, Ngeremlengu, Ngatpang, Aimeliik, Peleliu, Angaur, Sonsorol, Tobi, and Pulo Ana Atoll.

—Second Representative District shall be composed of the municipalities of Kayangel, Ngerchelong, Ngaraard, Ngiwall, Melekeik, and Ngechsar.

—Third Representative District shall be composed of the municipalities of Koror and Airai.

Ponape District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of Madolenihmw and Uh.

—Second Representative District shall be composed of Net, Kolonia, and Pingelap.

—Third Representative District shall be composed of Kitti, Kapingamarangi, and Nukuoro.

—Fourth Representative District shall be composed of Sokehs, Mokil and Ngatik.

Truk District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of the Municipality of Moen.

—Second Representative District shall be composed of the islands of Dublon and Uman.

—Third Representative District shall be composed of the islands of Fefan, Parem, Tsis, Losap, Pis-Losap, and Nama.

—Fourth Representative District shall be composed of the Lower Mortlock Islands, namely, Ettal, Kuttu, Lukunor, Moch, Namoluk, Oneop, Satawan and Ta.

—Fifth Representative District shall be composed of the Hall Islands, the Namonuito Atoll, and the Western Islands, namely, Fananu, Magur, Murilo, Onari, Nomwin, Ono, Pulap, Pissaras, Pulusuk, Puluwat, Ruo, Tamatam, and Ulu.

—Sixth Representative District shall be composed of the islands of Tol and Fanapanges.

—Seventh Representative District shall be composed of the islands of Eot, Pata, Polle, Romalu, Udot, and Wonei.

Yap District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of Yap Islands Proper, namely Rumung Island, Yap Island, Map Island, and Gagil-Tomil Island.

—Second Representative District shall be composed of all other atolls and islands in Yap District, namely, Ngulu Atoll, Ulithi Atoll, Fais Island, Sorol Atoll, Eauripik Atoll, Woleai Atoll, Ifalik Atoll, Faraulep Atoll, Gaferut Island, Olimarao Atoll, Elato Atoll, Lamotrek Atoll, West Fayu Atoll, Satawal Island, and Pikelot Island.

Kusaie District:

—First Representative District shall be composed of Kusaie District.

Yamada Graduated

Florencio Yamada from Palau, recently graduated from Fiji School of Medicine after successfully completing a one year course in Environmental Health Inspection.

The course outline consisted of classroom theory and practical field work in areas of community hygiene, vector control, disease transmission and prevention, water supply and refuse disposal.

Yamada also took courses in food sanitation, water sampling procedures including chemical and bacteriological analyses, and other related programs.

Yamada is a 1970 graduate of Palau High School, and had worked at Palau District Environmental Health Division for four years before going to Fiji. He is married to Cecilia, a dental nurse in Palau.

U.N. Visiting Mission Completes T.T. Tour

The 1976 United Nations Visiting Mission to Micronesia completed its month long tour of all the districts on April 6th, and returned to its Headquarters in New York. The members of the Mission chaired by Sir James Murray from the United Kingdom and co-chairman Bertrand de Guilhem de Lataillade of France and their staff arrived first in the northern Marianas on March 5th. The Mission concluded its tours in the Marshalls.

Some of the major issues discussed with the members of the Visiting Mission throughout the districts included dissatisfaction over the war claims payments, possible political fragmentation of Micronesia by some districts, the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement by 1981, the economic and political development and advancement in Micronesia, return of public lands, the polarization of students through the present educational system, the farmers and fishermen's earnings verses wages of government employees, the proposed super port in Palau, fishing and agriculture development, shipping systems and 200 mile economic zone proposal of the Micronesian law of the sea delegation, decentralization, the veto power of the High Commissioner and the Secretary of the Interior, and U.S. foreign policy affecting Micronesian participation in international affairs.

The persistent concern of the people about the war claims payments prompted Chairman Murray to say that his team might go to Washington, D.C. to let appropriate authorities in the U.S. Government know the great importance the people of Micronesia place on the speedy conclusion of war claims payments. The statement was made in Ponape district. Murray said, "Ever since we arrived in Micronesia, and in every meeting yet attended, the subject of war claims has always been raised. We were briefed on Saipan and we think we understand the problems. Mr. de Lataillade and I will probably go to Washington, D.C., to advise appropriate authorities of what we have learned during this trip regarding the war claims issue. We'll also try to find out what the U.S. Government intends to do in the speedy payment of war claims in Micronesia."

However, Murray made it perfectly clear that there is very little prospect of getting more money from the government of Japan to pay claims for damages that occurred during the hostilities in World War II. He said that it would be wrong to raise false hopes in this area of the war claims issue because the subject now seems to be a closed matter.

As for the possible fragmentation of Micronesia, Murray pointed out that the Trusteeship Council has always maintained that it would be in the best interest of all the districts to remain together and seek a common political future. The Council attaches great importance to Micronesian unity, Murray emphasized.

Concerning the proposed termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in 1981, Chairman Murray replied that the U.S. has proposed to end the Agreement by 1981. The administering authority hopes to have prepared the Trust Territory for self-government or independence by then. That is why there have been negotiations between the Congress of Micronesia and the U.S.

Government. One of the questions that is included in the negotiations is the amount of U.S. financial assistance to Micronesia after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. Co-chairman de Lataillade further emphasized, "We do not speak for the U.S. Government on this issue. But we are merely repeating to you what the U.S. has said."

Speaking about political advancement, Murray indicated that Micronesia's political status must be decided by the Micronesians themselves and not by outsiders. He said, "Your political status must be based on what you want depending on your particular circumstances and traditions."

Answering the complaint that the school curriculum in Micronesia teaches subjects that are "irrelevant" to Micronesia, the Chairman pointed out that most of the district directors of education and the Trust Territory Director of Education are Micronesians who are in a position to know what needs to be taught in Micronesian schools. He suggested that if there are irrelevant curricula in schools, they should be brought to the attention of these people.

Commenting on the Law of Sea issue, Murray said that it is a complex situation and the Trusteeship Council can only emphasize the importance attached to it by the people of Micronesia. He added that the Trusteeship Council reaffirmed last year the U.S. responsibility to protect Micronesian marine resources.

In the Marshall Islands, the Chairman of the Mission received a copy of that District Legislature's resolution which authorizes the Marshalls Political Status Commission to negotiate with the U.S. Government and with "other foreign governments" concerning the future political status of the District of the Marshall Islands.

Murray told the Nitijela law makers that the Trusteeship Council has not modified its stand on Micronesian unity and that it would be concerned over the resolution as it would seem that the measure would be detrimental to Micronesian unity. He stressed, however, that he would deal with the matter in the mission's report to the Council. The Chairman further added that he would try not to pre-judge what the Council would do regarding the resolution.

Pausing in front of Ponape Airport Terminal (l-r): Co-chairman of the Mission de Lataillade, Ponape Deputy DistAd Weilbacher and Chairman Murray.



McConnell; President of MDB

The Micronesia Development Bank's board of directors has unanimously approved the selection of J. Knox McConnell as President of the Bank.

McConnell replaces former President Jose Perez of Guam who resigned at the end of the recent session of the Congress.

The MDB President is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He brings with him 20 years of banking experience to his new post.

McConnell is a graduate of Waynesburg College in Pennsylvania. He also graduated from the Graduate School of Credit and Financial Management, Stanford University in California.

He is an author of a best seller book "How to Borrow Money", published by Exposition Press, Hicksville, New York. He has worked as president of the Community Bank of Pittsburgh, and founded the Conemaugh Valley Bank in Blairsville, Pennsylvania in 1962.

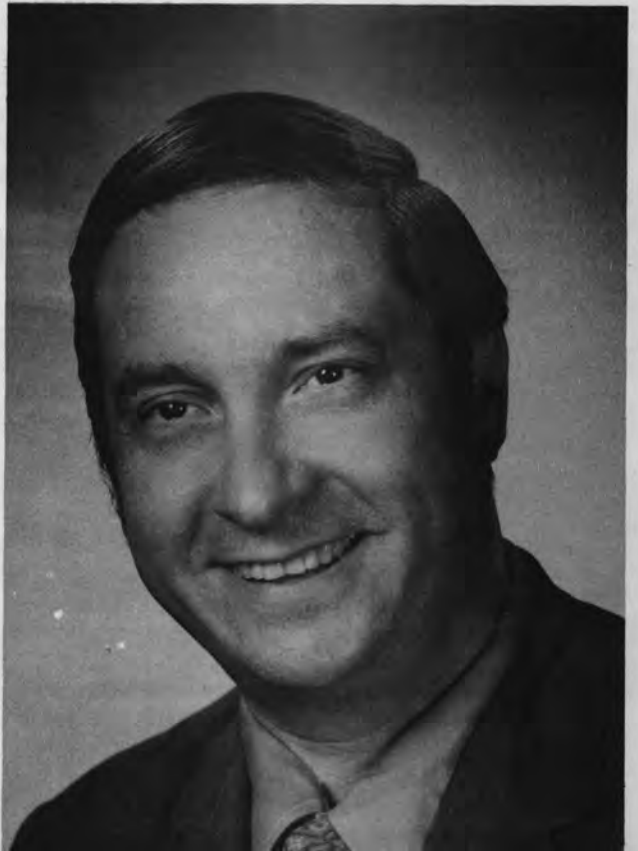
McConnell commented: "The Micronesia Development Bank shall move forward immediately to promote and help to develop all of Micronesia for its people."

He concluded: "I pledge the bank will always insure honesty, integrity and devotion of duty to this great land."

The new President met with the MDB Board of Directors which held its meeting on Saipan this week.

In a related matter, the Board of Directors adopted new regulations to accommodate transfer of the administration of TTPI EDLF funds to MDB.

The Micronesia Development Bank's Board of Directors unanimously approved the selection of J.Knox McConnell as President of the Bank.



Escorted by District Administrator and Mrs. Oscar DeBrum, de Lataillade took time to pose with a young Marshallese belle. Chairman Murray and Mission staff member, Girma Abebe, look on approvingly.



Sir James braves the waves to get ashore at Kili Atoll in the Marshalls.

Members of the Mission watch the Yapese Traditional women dance in the District of Yap.



Kwajalein Agreement Signed

Marshalls District Administrator Oscar DeBrum and Colonel R. L. Russel signed a five-year extension agreement to allow the U.S. Army to use part of Kwajalein Atoll for ballistic missile testing.

George Allen, attorney for the Kwajalein area land owners, said the negotiations were concluded last week among the Trust Territory, military officials, and the Kwajalein "mid-corridor landowners."

The new agreement provides \$3.52 million in compensation for the islanders and more than \$1 million in compensation for transportation, heavy equipment and replanting costs, Allen told the Daily News.

The islands in the corridor were cleared of inhabitants in 1964 when missile testing started on Kwajalein, and the landowners were housed on Ebeye Island.

Under the new agreement the islanders will be able to use their islands, for the first time since 1964, for both living space and agricultural production.

The agreement also provided the landowners with increased compensation and the right to re-enter the corridor to use their lands and water for up to 120 days a year.

It also stipulated that the Army will provide ship transportation back to the corridor islands and heavy equipment for use in replanting and rehabilitating some 600 acres to land.

Sen. Amata Kabua, land owner representative, predicted that 1,000 corridor residents may take advantage of the Army's transportation and rehabilitation commitments under the new agreement.

Present at the signing ceremony March 29 on Kwajalein were: Col. Russell, John Beavers, liaison officer; Judge Advocate Capt. Alfred Juechter; Harley Earwicker, District Attorney; Allen, Kabua and DeBrum.

Signing of a five-year extension agreement to allow the U.S. Army to use part of Kwajalein Atoll for ballistic missile testing. L-r: Colonel R.L. Russell and District Administrator Oscar DeBrum signing the pact.



Status Commission Formed

The Marshall Islands Nitijela has adopted a resolution authorizing the Marshalls Political Status Commission (MPSC) to negotiate with the U.S. Government and with "other foreign governments" concerning its future political status. Action on the resolution came on April 5, minutes before the Nitijela was to meet with the United Nations Visiting Mission. A copy of the resolution was presented to the Chairman of the Mission, James Murray.

The resolution, introduced by Iroij (Chief) Namo Hermios and Jina Lavin, accuses the Congress of Micronesia and the Trust Territory Government of not being "sympathetic to the Marshall Islands" and their "special needs."

The resolution further states that the MPSC has submitted its report and studies which indicates that the draft constitution for the Federated States of Micronesia "discriminates against the Marshall Islands, does not ensure an equitable distribution of revenue between the states in the proposed federation, does not recognize the sovereignty of the Marshall Islands with respect to fishing rights and land lease negotiations, and if implemented would be destructive to Marshallese culture and way of life . . ."

A "vast majority" of the people of the Marshall Islands are "dissatisfied" with the provisions of the compact of free association and the draft Micronesian constitution, according to the resolution. The MPSC is authorized to negotiate with the U.S. and with representatives of other nations to "attempt to secure a form of future political status for the people of the Marshall Islands which will take into account the unique characteristics" of the Marshallese people.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to the President; Secretaries of State and Interior; Director of Territorial Affairs; the High Commissioner, Marshalls District Administrator and the MPSC chairman.

Sen. Amata Kabua is the Chairman of the status commission and Tony DeBrum, District Director of Public Affairs, is the Vice-Chairman.

Palau Police Officers Promoted

Seven Palauan policemen have been promoted to the positions of Captain, Lieutenant, Fire Chief and Sergeant. Two officers were promoted to the rank of Captain, three to the rank of Lieutenant, one to Fire Chief and one became Sergeant, according to the Palau Newspaper, Tia Belau.

Manuel T. Sablan, Superintendent of Public Safety Division at the Headquarters, confirmed the promotions, and further added that he sent Police Training Officer, Mariano M. Sablan, to Palau District on February 11, to assist the Police Department in Palau in an administrative capacity. He may be in Palau for as long as five to six months.

The police officers who were promoted were: John Stole and Besure Kanai to the rank of Captain, Raymond Akiwo, Elia Tulop, and Mark Tewid to Lieutenant, Merong Ngirmeriil to Fire Chief, and Herbert Decherong to Sergeant.

Political Status Commission Bill Signed

Trust Territory Executive Officer Juan A. Sablan signed into law April 7 a bill to establish a Commission on Future Political Status and Transition, (SB 6-267). Sablan signed the bill in his capacity as Acting Deputy High Commissioner. Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman was in Palau District.

The bill, which became Public Law 6-87, will also appropriate \$100,000 to carry out the functions of the new status commission. The new commission will replace the former Joint Committee on Future Status of the Congress of Micronesia which was headed by Palau Senator Lazarus Sali since its formation in 1970.

The new status commission will consist of 11 members to serve for a two-year term. Initial appointments must be made no later than 30 days from the effective date of the bill.

The commission will consist of five members from the Congress of Micronesia representing all the districts except the Mariana Islands to be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House; one member from each of the five administrative district to be appointed by resolution of the respective district legislatures and one member from Kusaie to be appointed by the Kusaie Municipal Council.

Initial appointments shall be transmitted in writing to the Vice-President of the Senate of the Congress of Micronesia, Sen. Lazarus Sali of Palau. All subsequent appointments of members shall be transmitted in writing to the Chairman of the Commission.

Under the "Special Provisions" section of the bill, an additional member from Kusaie Island will be appointed from the Congress of Micronesia by the presiding officers no later than ten days after the Seventh Congress, First Regular Session begins in January of 1977. The Kusaie District Legislature may "revoke or reaffirm" after Jan. 1, 1977, the appointment made by the Kusaie Municipal Council, thereby making the total membership of the Commission 12.

According to the law, the Commission shall convene its first meeting no later than 60 days after the bill is signed into law. The Vice-President of the Senate shall act as a temporary chairman of the commission until a chairman has been elected by and from among its members.

At its first meeting, the Commission shall divide itself into two committees, the Committee on Future Status and the Committee on Transition, and shall prescribe its duties and responsibilities. Two thirds of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Duties and responsibilities of the Commission will be to make recommendations to the Congress of Micronesia, the High Commissioner and the future national legislature of the Federated States of Micronesia relating to:

- a governmental structure for the new national Government of Micronesia under the constitution;
- legislation necessary to implement the Constitution;
- legislation required when existing laws are found to be inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution;
- terms and timetables, in areas not specifically provided for the Constitution, for transition from the

Trust Territory Government to the new Government of Micronesia;

- procedure for an equitable reallocation of government personnel and property;
- relocation of the national capital;
- equitable division, if necessary, of assets in the Social Security Fund, Copra Stabilization Fund, Economic Development Loan Fund, and other special funds;
- government personnel and employees, including the present and future need for expatriate employees; and the priorities for the development and training of the Trust Territory citizens manpower, including education and training for new public officers and essential government staff;

-effectiveness of and necessity for U.S. Federal programs, agencies, public entities or organizations that are operating in the Trust Territory, and which programs, agencies, public entities, or organizations should continue to operate in Micronesia both under the Trust Territory Government and the new government; and

-implementation, prior to the termination of the Trusteeship, of those portions of the Constitution not in fundamental conflict with the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement.

The Commission shall also:

- continue and complete the work of the Joint Committee on Future Status in strict conformity with the Constitution; and
- renegotiate the existing draft Compact to the extent necessary to bring it into conformity with the Constitution.

The law stipulates that the Commission "may negotiate, study, recommend or otherwise deal with any other matters, including those matters originally assigned to the Joint Committee on Future Status, which will effect early and satisfactory conclusion of the future political status negotiations and promote a smooth and orderly transition to government under the Constitution.

The Commission shall submit a written report on its activities to the Congress of Micronesia on or before September 10, 1976.

The bill was introduced by Ponape Senator Ambilos Iehsi, who is a member of the Joint Committee on Future Status, at the last regular session of the Congress of Micronesia, concluded recently on Saipan.

Shown in the High Commissioner's office with Juan A. Sablan, Executive Officer, and trainers are selected trainees to study the new financial management system at Headquarters. The trainees have successfully completed a three-week course in "Introduction to Computers" Program and received their certification of achievement on April 2.



PERSONNEL NEWS AND INFORMATION

NOTE: This information should precede that describing the Committee on Training of Trust Territory citizen Employee which appeared in the April 1 issue of the Highlights.

INFORMATION

Training and Employee Development (continued).

The two prior segments on training and employee development set out training policy, where training responsibilities lie, and program coverage (orientation; supervisory, executive, and managerial training; vocational and trades training; and clerical and secretarial training). The Director of Personnel establishes additional training programs, as they become necessary.


Training Procedures — The employing department submits to the Training Division (through the District Personnel Officer, if a District Department) a Form TT-656, specifying the kind and length of training, the resources to be used, and the suggested participating employee(s); and the source and availability of funds for the proposed training. The Training Division evaluates the request and the Director of Personnel decides if the proposed training is appropriate; and, if appropriate, whether it falls under job skills training for present employment — the government pays full cost; training for promotion — the Government pays half cost; or employee development training — the government pays one fourth of the cost. The Training Division monitors

trainee's progress and, with the pertinent Department(s) and/or District(s), together with the trainee's report of his training, evaluate the effectiveness and appropriateness of the training program. This procedure applies to training within or outside the Trust Territory.

Training and Education Leave — with pay, not exceeding one year, requires the Director of Personnel's approval; the High Commissioner may extend this leave period. The employee must return to his position for at least one year, before repetition of leave with pay for job — related training and education. Leave **without** pay may succeed leave with pay, or be requested separately, for training and education for up to one year, subject to approval by the Director of Personnel.

Right to return to previous position goes with both leave with pay and leave without pay for educational purposes. Such leave **with** pay is credited as being on the job; but such leave **without** pay is not credited when calculating an employee's service anniversary date.

Support of Training — is encouraged from District Administrators, Department Heads, top managers and supervisors, since improved skills and more effective supervision supports greater productivity and job satisfaction. The Congress of Micronesia and the Executive Branch place the highest priority, as a policy matter, on the training of Micronesians to better fulfill their responsibilities and to seek higher responsibilities in the government.



HIGHLIGHTS

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