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Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

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Marianas

**MICRONESIANS SELECTED FOR AMERICAN FIELD
SERVICE PROGRAM**

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands,
June 5 . . . For the first time in the Trust Territory, Micronesian
students have been selected to participate in the American Field
Service (AFS) Program, a project which allows senior high school students
from foreign countries to live with American families in the United
States. While they learn first-hand of the different aspects of
American life--customs, ideals, interests, and problems--the Micro-
nesians are also to broaden the horizons of their American family by
telling of their own land and the daily life in their own homes.

Truk

Ponape

Marshalls

Leaving in August for New Haven, Connecticut, Martin Gebly Yinug
of Yap will live with the Christian L. Englehardt family and will
attend North Haven High School. Felix Aldan Ayuyu of Saipan, Mariana
Islands, will live in Boulder, Colorado, with the Charles Stall family.
Both boys will be seniors.

Yap

Under the auspices of the American Field Service, high school
students between 15 and 18 years of age from more than 60 countries will
attend over 2000 American high schools this year. They will live in
carefully selected homes as members of a United States' family and
on the same basis as the other young persons in the home.

MORE

Palau

Pac.
DU500
A217

CLOSED
SHELVES

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FIELD SERVICE PROGRAM - Page 2

Two other Trust Territory high school students, Frieda Sophia Sablan Reyes and Ramon Garrido Villagomez, both of Saipan, have been approved by the AFS and, if acceptable sponsors are located, these students will also go to the United States in August.

Although preliminary selections of candidates were made within the Territory's districts, the final selecting and placement authority was the AFS. For its part, the Trust Territory Scholarship Office administers the program within the Territory and provides round-trip transportation from the student's home district center to San Francisco, California. From there, the student's sponsor will provide transportation to the final destination. The American Field Service is a non-profit organization, conducted and supported by private United States' citizens. It receives special assistance and cooperation from the United States government, however.

Originally beginning as a private volunteer ambulance corps with the French armies in 1914, the organization's efforts were turned toward education after the war and graduate fellowships to French universities were instituted. After it served its original purpose as an ambulance corps during World War II, its members decided in 1946 to continue its traditions --working for international understanding among peoples of the world. Their ideas were formulated into the American Field Service International Scholarship Program.

MORE

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The announcement of the Trust Territory's initial participation and accepted candidates in the AFS program was made by Lawrence T. Burback, scholarship officer for the Territory's Department of Education in Saipan.

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