



August 9, 1966

HEADQUARTERS HIGHLIGHTS

A fortnightly digest from the Office of the High Commissioner

UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION

The 1967 Visiting Mission from the United Nations is expected to visit the Territory during January and February. Members of the Mission include Miss Angie Brooks, Chairman, Liberia, and one representative each from Australia, France, and Great Britain.

UNITED NATIONS DRAFTING COMMITTEE REPORT AVAILABLE

The report of the Trusteeship Council's Drafting Committee on conditions in the Territory, based on discussions in the Council this July, has been distributed to all department heads, district administrators, and members of the Congress of Micronesia. Interested staff members may obtain this from their respective Department Heads.

PEACE CORPS/TT

Present offices of the Peace Corps/TT are located in the MIU Building next to Joeten Supermarket, phone 3214.

Jerry Fite, Peace Corps Mariana Islands District Director, arrived in Saipan on July 29.

CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT ACT AMENDED

Title V of the Federal Salary and Fringe Benefits Act of 1966, Public Law 89-504, approved July 18, 1966, amends the Civil Service Retirements Act in several significant respects. The following changes should be of special interest to Trust Territory Civil Service employees:

Employees may now voluntarily retire with immediate annuities (effective July 18) at age 60 with 20 years of service or at 55 with 30 years. Formerly, employees with only 20 years of service could not retire before age 62.

Formerly, the annuity if persons retiring under age 60 was reduced one percent a year for every year under 60. The reduction has been eliminated and full

Employees involuntarily separated under age 60 will get full annuities. Employees under age 55 retire for reason will have their annuities reduced by 1/6 of one percent for each month under age 55.

For more detailed information, please contact the Personnel Office.

R & R TRAVEL

The Acting Assistant Commissioner for Resources and Development has notified all eligible employees that in view of the fact that planes have been booked to capacity, it is recommended that persons planning to travel on R & R status be cautioned that there is a very good possibility they will not be able to be booked.

HOTEL SPACE ON GUAM

LNO Guam has notified us that only Hotel Micronesia will give confirmed reservations. All other motels are booked solid.

NEW PER DIEM RATE FOR GUAM

Effective August 1, 1966, the official Trust Territory per diem rate for Guam \$20.00. The increase in the rate is due to increased costs for meals, lodging and services.

VISITORS

POST OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE

Walter L. Robinson, Chief, Real Estate Branch, U.S. Post Office, arrived August 6 to inspect and try to provide better physical facilities for local post offices.

TRAVEL CONSULTANT IN PALAU

James E. Faris, Travel Consultant from the Department of the Interior, is evaluating the travel potential of the Trust Territory in relation to the changing and rapidly developing tourist and travel patterns of the Pacific area. Mr. Faris who is presently in Koror, Palau, will depart August 12 to Saipan.

PHOTOGRAPHER TO ULITHI

Jack Fields who was in the Territory in 1964 taking pictures for the article which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, "America's Neglected Colonial Paradise", is returning to visit Ulithi. He is interested in doing a story on the field trip in Yap which picks up school children for the fall term.

GUAM WRITER VISITS SAIPAN

Miss Marge Smith, who writes for several Guam publications, is in Saipan to prepare several articles on the Congress of Micronesia.

JAPANESE RESEARCHER TO TINIAN

Mr. Fumihiko Nakajima, who was with the South Sea Development Company prior to World War II and did research on certain Micronesian islands, arrived in Saipan on the Pacific Islander this week.

Mr. Nakajima will study the ground water resources of Tinian and advise on the possible use of the "kudzū" plant as a pasture feed and soil builder.

PERSONNEL NOTES

NEW EMPLOYEES IN ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION.

John G. Cook, a former self-employed architect from Belvedere, California, is a Supervisory Architect Planner. His wife, Janet, has not arrived yet.

Dean Gilham, formerly Surveyor/Cartographic Engineer in Palau, has been detailed to Engineering and Construction as a Civil Engineer. His wife, Frances, will be working as Secretary to the Assistant Commissioner for Community Services.

