

JAPANESE BOMB VICTIMS VISIT TT COUNTERPARTS

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MAJURO--Seven members of the Japanese anti nuclear Congress, 'Gensuiken', visited the district center of the Marshalls last week to meet with Marshallese victims of the 1954 Bikini radiation accident.

Three of the Japanese, Noboru Matsunaka, who was thirteen years old in 1945, Tadao Matsuki, who was nine, and Mamoru Nishimoto, who was born in 1948, had a personal interest in coming face to face with the Marshallese victims since the two older men and the younger Nishimoto are themselves victims of atomic radiation.

Matsunaka and Matsuki were living in Hiroshima when the Americans exploded the first tactically employed atomic bomb.

Nishimoto's mother and father, as well as two older brothers were living in the city at the time.

All three, in the course of time, joined the Gensuiken organization as a personal commitment to oppose the use of nuclear power in any form, regardless of the possibility of so-called 'peaceful' applications.

In this connection they were joined by four of their Gensuiken comrades in a mission to the Marshalls to restate and underscore Gensuiken's con-

tinued opposition to nuclear power.

Along with the three Hiroshima victims, four other Japanese travelled to Majuro: Kazuyoshi Yamakawa of Fukuoka, Tadao Maruyama, of Fukuoka, and Yoshikazu Shimoka, and Yoshikazu Shimeno of Saga.

Japanese journalist Maeda Tetsuo accompanied the group as interpreter.

MEET WITH ATAJI BALOS OF COM

On Monday, October 31, the Gensuiken members met with Rep. Ataji Balos for nearly two hours to discuss the on-going medical treatment of the Rongelap and Utrik bomb victims.

Kazuyoshi Yamakawa, speaking for the group, said he was very pleased to hear from Congressman Balos that the United States has apparently changed its policy regarding the Rongelap/Utrik people.

"Since President Carter has initiated 'human rights' diplomacy in the realm of world affairs we hope the new Carter policy will move to confirm continued communication and exchange between the Micronesian victims, the United States Trusteeship administration, and Japanese who are interested in these problems," he said. CONT. P. 9

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GENSUIKEN PEOPLE MEET WITH BALOS...

About A

FROM P. 1

He added that he was surprised to hear from Balos that the people cannot eat coconut crab and said that apparently the Micronesian victims are being asked to pay a higher price for their exposure than their Japanese counterparts.

"It is good to remember that the bomb that affected the Marshallese people was one thousand times more powerful than the bombs dropped on Nagasaki or Hiroshima.

Yamakawa urged that the American authorities permit a Japanese medical survey examine the people of Rongelap and Utirik because the people of these islands definitely want such a survey.

At present, he said, the U.S. policy is to prohibit such a survey.

In a related comment, fellow traveller Y. K. zu Shimeno of said he was disappointed to find that there is such a scarcity of information concerning the exposed victims of Rongelap and Utirik among people in the outer islands and that something should be done to bring fellow outer islanders into a better un-

derstanding of what the word's atomic bomb and radioactivity mean.

New State Department Deputy Here

SAIPAN—Don Paarlberg has been appointed deputy Status Liaison Officer serving under present State Department representative Paul Bennett.

Paarlberg will be accompanying Donald M Anderson, newly appointed deputy to the President's Personal Representative to the Micronesian Status

nations, on a orientation through the eastern districts which began last Saturday.

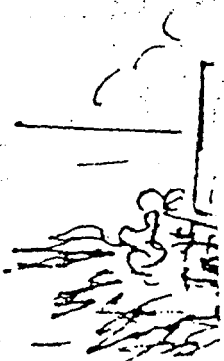
He served as a foreign officer in the American Embassy in Seoul, Korea from 1975-77, and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal in 1968.

He has a Masters degree in Education from Northwestern University.

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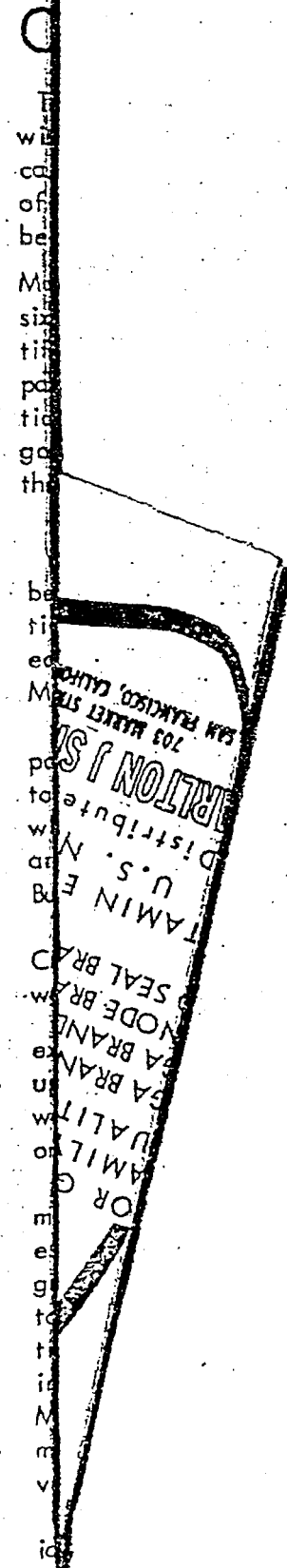
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Saipan - The scope and quality of medical care presently available in the Trusteeship will probably worsen after a new political status is agreed to the Micronesian Health Coordinating Council which met late October here.

Council members are in agreement that something must be done to improve medical care in Micronesia before termination of the Trusteeship which is tentatively scheduled for 1981.

Faced with this belief, the Council approved a request to President Car-

ter of the United States to begin immediately a recruitment and training program for Micronesians in specific health programs and to help develop Micronesian self-dependency in health care.

Council President Dr. Minoru Ueki, a member of the Palau delegation to the Malokai status talks, brought the Council concerns to the status negotiations.

He said in Saipan that the publically stated policy intention to drastically reduce funding support for the people of Micronesia after 1981 will limit the ability to maintain and upgrade service in health for the people of Micronesia.

The present inadequate level of health care in the TT, which was used as a guideline for determining future funding levels, will leave Micronesia incapable of self-sustaining care for its people.

Categories identified by the Council as having shortages include physicians, surgeons, nurses, laboratory, radiology and supply technicians, pharmacists, administrators, nutritionists, environmental and sanitation specialists and health planners and educators.

Trust Territory Director of Health Services Dr. Masao Kumagai claimed that an additional 200 nurses are needed over and above the 200 now working—and that more will be needed to staff hospitals in Ponape and Yap.

Dr. Ueki described a double difficulty being faced by TT health personnel: one, operations are under-

staffed, and two, many members of the staff are seriously undertrained to be able to perform their functions adequately.

In this regard the Council asked the United States to recruit Micronesian manpower to take care of present needs, start a comprehensive training program to upgrade skills of present workers, and to help establish the capability of training in Micronesia after 1981.

The Council also voted to have Micronesian Health Standards established by year's end.

Medical Care in Trust Territory
May deteriorate after 1981...

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