

TRUK HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

JOHNSON ELIMO
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I. INTRODUCTION

DURING THE SENIOR TOWN STUDY PROJECT THIS YEAR, OUR GROUP DID A STUDY OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES OF 1966 AND 1972. WE HAVE OBSERVED A RAPID INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ON TRUK AND WE WERE VERY INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE GRADUATES.

UPON DISCUSSING THIS TOPIC WITH OUR DIRECTOR, FRANCIS HEZEL S.J., WE BEGAN TO SEE MANY OBSTACLES, BUT THEY ONLY AROUSED OUR INTEREST AND ASSURED US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROJECT.

WE COULD HAVE DONE A STUDY ON ANY OTHER TWO GRADUATING CLASSES. HOWEVER, WE PICKED THESE TWO BECAUSE OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS. THE CLASS OF 1966 WAS THE SECOND GRADUATING CLASS, WHICH MEANS THAT THIS WAS SOON AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL. THE CLASS OF 1972 WAS A MORE RECENT CLASS; HOWEVER, IT IS NOT SO RECENT THAT THE GRADUATES CAN'T BE SETTLED DOWN BY NOW. IT HAS BEEN FIVE YEARS SINCE THEY GRADUATED, AND WE EXPECT MANY OF THOSE WHO WENT TO COLLEGE TO HAVE COME BACK TO TRUK AND NOW BE LIVING IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES.

THERE WERE MANY CHANGES THAT TOOK PLACE BETWEEN 1966 AND 1972. THESE CHANGES WERE NOT ONLY SOCIAL, BUT ALSO EDUCATIONAL. THEY INCLUDE THE EXPANSION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT CENTER, THE EXPANSION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN THE OUTER ISLANDS, AND THE INCREASE IN THE GENERAL T.T. BUDGET. SINCE 1966 THE GRADUATING CLASSES OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL HAVE BEEN INCREASING IN SIZE, AND BY 1972 THERE WERE A HUNDRED ADDITIONAL STUDENTS IN THE GRADUATING CLASS.

OUR PRIME OBJECTIVE WAS TO FIND THE PROFILE OF THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE IN TRUK IN EACH OF THESE CLASSES. SECONDLY WE WANTED TO EXAMINE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CLASSES AND SEE WHETHER WE COULD IDENTIFY TRENDS FOR THE FUTURE, NOT JUST IN TRUK BUT IN THE WHOLE OF MICRONESIA. TO ESTABLISH THE PROFILES OF THE TWO GRADUATING CLASSES OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL, WE STUDIED FOUR MAJOR ELEMENTS, WITH MOST OF THE EMPHASIS ON THE FIRST THREE. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ELEMENTS WE STUDIED:

1. RESIDENCE
2. FURTHER EDUCATION
3. EMPLOYMENT
4. STABILITY (THEIR MARRIAGE STATUS AND WHETHER THEY HAVE GOTTEN IN TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE.)

IMMEDIATELY AFTER WE OBTAINED A LIST OF THE TWO CLASSES FROM THE RECORDS OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL, WE CONDUCTED A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS WITH THE STUDENTS OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL AS TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE GRADUATES. WE WERE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE THEIR HELP. ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T GET DATA ON EVERY ONE OF THE GRADUATES, WE WERE GIVEN ENOUGH INFORMATION SO AS TO START OFF. WE WOULD LIKE TO PUBLICLY RECORD OUR THANKS TO THE STAFF AND THE STUDENTS OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR GENEROUS HELP ON THIS PROJECT.

AFTER WE LEARNED THE WHEREABOUTS OF SOME OF THE GRADUATES, WE BEGAN OUR THREE-WEEK PERIOD OF TRACING THEM DOWN. IN THE LIMITED TIME FOR OUR RESEARCH PROJECT, WE WERE ABLE TO COVER 178 OUT OF THE TOTAL OF 185 GRADUATES OF THE TWO CLASSES. THROUGH OUR INTERVIEWS WITH MOST OF THEM, WE WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON OTHERS WHO WERE NOT AVAILABLE ON THE ISLAND FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW. WHERE WE FAILED TO GET SATISFACTORY INFORMATION, WE CONDUCTED INTERVIEWS WITH CLOSE FRIENDS, PARENTS, AND RELATIVES OF THESE PEOPLE.

IN THESE INTERVIEWS, WE ASKED GENERAL QUESTIONS BASED ON OUR FOUR MAJOR ELEMENTS IN OUR STUDY. WHEN WE NEEDED MORE ACCURATE INFORMATION, WE ADDED MORE QUESTIONS. WE USED COLOR-CODED CARDS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL ACCORDING TO THE YEAR OF GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL. BELOW IS A SAMPLE OF OUR CARDS.

NAME: JOHNSON S. ELIMO 28

MOEN

RESIDENCE: TRAS, MOEN

EDUCATION: UNIVERSITY OF LONDON (1967-1971)
GRADUATED WITH BA DEGREE

OCCUPATION: MANAGER STOP & SHOP

\$595.99 BI/WEEKLY

MARRIAGE STATUS: MARRIED / KIDS

(GOT MARRIED AFTER GRADUATION
FROM COLLEGE.)

TROUBLESOME: NEVER BEEN IN JAIL.

(ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES)

NOTE: DIRECT INTERVIEW

THROUGH OUR VISITS TO THE POLICE-STATION, EDUCATION
OFFICE, EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, AND OTHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICES,
WE WERE ABLE TO CROSS-CHECK OUR INFORMATION AND PROBE
MORE DEEPLY INTO THE LIFE-ACTIVITIES OF THESE INDIVIDUALS.

IN THIS RESEARCH PAPER, WE CAME UPON SEVERAL INTEREST-
ING CONCLUSIONS WHICH YOU WILL FIND AS YOU READ ALONG.
WE HOPE THAT WHAT WE HAVE SUMMED UP WILL BE OF SOME BENEFIT
TO YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR MICRONESIAN SOCIETY.

II. CLASS OF 1966

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1966 WAS, AS HAS BEEN MENTIONED, ONLY THE SECOND GRADUATING CLASS OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL. THE CLASS CONSISTED OF 44 GRADUATES, 41 OF WHOM ARE MALES AND 3 FEMALES. SINCE GRADUATION, 2 HAVE DIED AND 1 HAS BECOME MENTALLY SICK. THEREFORE, WE ATTEMPTED TO STUDY 41 PEOPLE FROM THIS CLASS. OF THE 41, WE WERE ABLE TO GET INFORMATION ON 38.

EDUCATION

UNDER EDUCATION, WE CATEGORIZED THE GRADUATES IN 3 GROUPS; A) THOSE WHO WENT TO COLLEGE, B) THOSE WHO WENT ON SPECIAL TRAINING, AND C) THOSE WHO RECEIVED NO FURTHER EDUCATION AFTER GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

IN OUR COLLEGE CATEGORY, WE INCLUDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA (CCM), UNIVERSITY OF GUAM (UOG), AS WELL AS ANY COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES. MOREOVER, WE DO NOT TRY TO DISTINGUISH TWO-YEAR AND FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES IN THIS PART OF THIS PAPER, ALTHOUGH THEY MAY BE CATEGORIZED DIFFERENTLY IN OTHER PARTS.

OUT OF THE 38 WHO WERE TRACKED DOWN, ONLY 7 OF THEM, THAT IS 18%, WENT ON TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION IN COLLEGE. (SEE TABLE 1.) FROM THE INFORMATION THAT WE RECEIVED ON THESE COLLEGE STUDENTS, 4 OF THEM COMPLETED IT; 2 WERE INCOMPLETE BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL, ACADEMIC, AND DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS; AND 1 IS STILL IN COLLEGE. NOT ALL OF THESE 7 GRADUATES WENT TO COLLEGE AT THE SAME TIME. THE ONE THAT IS STILL IN COLLEGE WORKED FOR 9 YEARS AS A TEACHER ON HIS HOME ISLAND, BEFORE HE DECIDED TO FURTHER HIS EDUCATION. BY THIS TIME HE HAD SAVED ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY HIS EDUCATION EXPENSES AND TO SUPPORT HIS FAMILY IN HIS ABSENCE.

THE SECOND CATEGORY INCLUDES ALL THOSE WHO WENT ON TO SPECIAL TRAINING. SPECIAL TRAINING INCLUDES MICRONESIAN OCCUPATIONAL CENTER, NURSING SCHOOL IN SAIPAN, MTEC IN PONAPE, AND ANY OTHER TRAINING SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF MICRONESIA. SOME OF THIS TRAINING OUTSIDE OF MICRONESIA INVOLVES SUCH THINGS AS POLICE TRAINING ON GUAM OR EVEN HAWAII, AND MANY OTHER TYPES OF DEPARTMENTAL TRAINING. THE LENGTH OF THESE SPECIAL TRAINING PROGRAMS VARIES CONSIDERABLY FROM 2 MONTHS TO 2 YEARS.

OUT OF THE 38 GRADUATES, 12 (OR 32%) WENT ON TO SPECIAL TRAINING. 10 OF THOSE 12 WHO WENT TO SPECIAL TRAINING COMPLETED THEIR PROGRAMS; THE OTHER 2 DID NOT COMPLETE THEM BECAUSE OF HOMESICKNESS AND PREGNANCY, ACCORDING TO OUR INTERVIEW NOTES. STILL WE CAN SEE THAT THE SUCCESS RATE OF THIS CLASS IS QUITE HIGH.

THE REMAINING 19 (OR 50%) OF THE 38 GRADUATES DID NOT HAVE ANY KIND OF FURTHER EDUCATION AT ALL. AFTER GRADUATION FROM TRUK HIGH SCHOOL, THEY STARTED WORKING BACK ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS.

AS WE WILL SEE LATER IN THIS PAPER, THIS CLASS HAD A GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING EMPLOYMENT BECAUSE OF THE MANY JOBS AVAILABLE AND FEW CONTENDERS. MANY OF THEM TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF GETTING A JOB RATHER THAN GOING OUT FOR FURTHER EDUCATION. SOME OF THEM, IT IS TRUE, MIGHT HAVE WANTED TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION AT THAT TIME, BUT BECAUSE OF THE VERY LIMITED FINANCIAL AID IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO GET TO COLLEGE. AT THAT TIME, BEOG, SEOG, AND OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS WERE NOT YET AVAILABLE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS.

EMPLOYMENT

WITH ONE OF THE GRADUATES STILL IN COLLEGE, THERE ARE 37 WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR EMPLOYMENT AT PRESENT. SINCE THEIR GRADUATION, THESE 37 HAVE BEEN, LIKE ANY OTHER TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES, LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GET A PERMANENT JOB.

AS OF NOW ALMOST EVERY ONE OF THEM IS HOLDING A REGULAR SALARIED JOB. ACCORDING TO OUR STATISTICS, 35 (OR 95%) OF THE TOTAL 37 ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED, WHILE ONLY 2 (OR 5%) ARE WORKING IN THE SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY.

THE 35 FULLY-EMPLOYED ARE BROKEN DOWN INTO 33 (OR 90%) GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND 2 (OR 5%) PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS. OF THE 33 GOVERNMENT WORKERS, 25 ARE WORKING IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND 22 OF THESE ARE TEACHERS. THE OTHER 8 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ARE WORKING IN OTHER DEPARTMENTS LIKE HEALTH SERVICES, POLICE STATION, AND SO FORTH. (REFER TO TABLE 2.)

AS WE HAVE ALREADY MENTIONED, 2 OF THE FULLY-EMPLOYED GRADUATES ARE WORKING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR TRANSCO AND TRUK TRADING COMPANY. THE NUMBER OF PRIVATE WORKER IS RELATIVELY SMALL, BUT IN OUR 1972 CLASS SECTION, WE WILL SEE THE INCREASE IN BOTH THE NUMBER AND THE PERCENTAGE BECAUSE OF THE TIGHTENING OF EMPLOYMENT IN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

EVERYONE IS HOLDING A REGULAR SALARIED JOB WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE TWO GRADUATES WHO CHOSE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME ISLANDS TO WORK ON THE LAND. A UNIVERSITY OF GUAM GRADUATE WAS ONCE WORKING, BUT THEN QUIT FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON AND WENT WITH HIS WIFE TO HER HOMEISLAND TO WORK IN THE SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY. THE OTHER ONE WENT TO HIS HOMEISLAND RIGHT AFTER GRADUATION AND NEVER HELD A REGULAR SALARIED JOB.

LOOKING AT OUR FIGURES ON EMPLOYMENT FOR THIS CLASS, WE CONCLUDE THAT THIS CLASS IS OCCUPIED BECAUSE 35 (OR 95%) ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED. THIS LARGE PERCENTAGE THAT IS FULLY-EMPLOYED INDICATES THE SUCCESS RATE IN EMPLOYMENT OF THIS CLASS.

RESIDENCE

PEOPLE ALWAYS WONDER WHERE MOST OF THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES LIVE AFTER GRADUATING. THE DISTRICT CENTER IS GETTING CROWDED EVERY YEAR AND WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT PEOPLE ARE SETTLING IN IT. IN OUR RESEARCH ON THE CLASS OF 1966, WE WERE TRYING TO FIND THE PRESENT RESIDENCE OF EACH GRADUATE AND WHETHER THE MAJORITY OF THEM LIVE ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS OR IN THE DISTRICT CENTER. IT IS COMMONLY BELIEVED THAT MOST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES TEND TO HANG AROUND IN THE DISTRICT CENTER BECAUSE THAT IS "WHERE THE ACTION IS." HOWEVER, OUR STATISTICS ON THIS CLASS SHOW THAT THE GREATER NUMBER OF THE GRADUATES ARE LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS.

WE FOUND THAT 26 (OR 70%) OF THE TOTAL CLASS OF 1966 ARE NOW LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS. (THIS 70% INCLUDES THOSE 4 GRADUATES WHO WERE ORIGINALLY FROM HOEN ISLAND.) WE CAN SEE THAT THIS CONTRADICTS THE COMMON BELIEF THAT MOST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES STAY ON IN THE DISTRICT CENTERS AFTER THEIR HIGH SCHOOL. 25 OF THESE 26 ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED, WHILE ONLY ONE IS WORKING IN THE SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY.

THE SECOND BIGGEST GROUP OF THESE GRADUATES ARE THOSE FROM OTHER ISLANDS WHO HAVE MOVED TO THE DISTRICT CENTER. OUT OF THE TOTAL GRADUATES OF 1966, 7 (OR 19%) FROM OTHER ISLANDS ARE STAYING IN MOEN. ALL OF THESE PEOPLE ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED.

3 (OR 8%) OF THESE GRADUATES ARE RESIDING ON OTHER ISLANDS BESIDES MOEN AND THEIR HOME ISLANDS. THE REMAINING ONE (OR 3%) IS RESIDING OUTSIDE OF TRUK DISTRICT. ALL THESE GRADUATES ARE RESIDING ON OTHER ISLANDS OR OUTSIDE OF TRUK BECAUSE OF THEIR JOBS OR MARRIAGE TO SOMEONE FROM A DIFFERENT ISLAND.

LOOKING AT THE FIGURES ABOVE, WE CONCLUDE THAT THE RATE OF EMPLOYMENT HAS A GREAT EFFECT ON THE RESIDENCE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS. THEIR RESIDENCE DEPENDS ON WHERE THERE ARE MORE JOBS. WE CAN ALL SEE THAT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STAYING ON MOEN OR OTHER ISLANDS ARE EITHER WORKING OR GETTING MARRIED ON THAT ISLAND. WE CAN PROVE IT BY LOOKING AT THE LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THESE GRADUATES WHO ARE LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS BECAUSE OF THE AVAILABLE JOBS. (REFER TO TABLE 3.)

STABILITY

IN OUR STUDY, STABILITY WAS VERY MUCH DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF GRADUATES' MARITAL STATUS AND BEHAVIOUR INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THEIR COMMUNITIES.

THE WHOLE CLASS OF 1966 WAS SO ESTABLISHED THAT ALMOST ALL OF THEM ARE WELL-SETTLED IN THIS CATEGORY OF STABILITY. THIS CLASS WENT THROUGH A FILTERING PROCESS WHERE THE 44 STUDENTS WERE PICKED OUT FROM AMONG ALL THE HUNDREDS TRUK ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TO ATTEND TRUK HIGH SCHOOL, SO THIS SMALL CLASS COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE A GOOD ONE.

LOOKING TO THEIR MARRIAGE STATUS, 35 (OR 92%) OF THE WHOLE CLASS ARE PERMANENTLY MARRIED. ALTHOUGH THREE OF THEM ARE STILL SINGLE, INCLUDING ONE MAN WHO COULD BE CALLED A PLAYBOY, WE CAN STILL SAY THAT THE CLASS AS A WHOLE IS WELL-SETTLED. THE SINGLE GRADUATES INCLUDE ONE FEMALE WHO IS WORKING AS A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE, AND ONE MALE WHO IS STILL IN SCHOOL. AS FOR THE PLAYBOY, HE IS NOT REALLY TROUBLESOME, ACCORDING TO OUR RELIABLE SOURCES.

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THEIR BEHAVIOUR INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THEIR COMMUNITIES WERE JUDGED BY POLICE ARRESTS AND THEIR DAILY ACTIVITIES IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES. AS FOR THE POLICE ARRESTS, WE WERE TOLD BY RELIABLE SOURCES THAT 4 OF THE TOTAL HAD BEEN ARRESTED BUT THESE 4 WERE BROUGHT IN FOR COMMON MINOR CHARGES, SUCH AS DRINKING WITHOUT A PERMIT AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT. THERE IS NO INDICATION OF ANY MORE SERIOUS CHARGES EVER BEING BROUGHT AGAINST THESE GRADUATES.

ON THE BASIS OF MARRIAGE STATUS AND THEIR BEHAVIOUR, THERE IS NO SIGN OF SERIOUS PROBLEMS AMONG THESE GRADUATES. IN GENERAL, WE MAY CONCLUDE THAT THIS CLASS IS VERY STABLE. AS FAR AS THEIR MARITAL STATUS AND THEIR BEHAVIOUR ARE CONCERN, ACCORDING TO OUR FINDINGS.

III. CLASS OF 1972

ACCORDING TO A LIST WE ACQUIRED FROM ONE OF THE TRUK HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS, THERE WERE 141 GRADUATES IN 1972: 111 MALES AND 30 FEMALES. OUT OF THESE 141 GRADUATES, WE WERE ABLE TO GET SUFFICIENT INFORMATION ON 140 OF THEM.

THERE IS NOTHING TOO SIGNIFICANT ABOUT THIS GRADUATING CLASS EXCEPT THAT IT WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GRADUATE AT THAT TIME WHEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA (CCM) AND MICRONESIAN OCCUPATIONAL CENTER (MOC) WERE BEGINNING TO FUNCTION. AS A RESULT, THE GRADUATES HAD A FAIR CHANCE OF FURTHERING THEIR EDUCATION. HOWEVER, FEDERAL COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS HAD NOT YET BEGUN.

EDUCATION

THE CLASS OF 1972, LIKE THE CLASS OF 1966, MAY BE CLASSIFIED INTO THREE MAIN GROUPINGS: A) FORMER AND PRESENT COLLEGE STUDENTS, B) FORMER AND PRESENT SPECIAL TRAINEES, AND C) THOSE WITHOUT FURTHER EDUCATION.

THE LARGEST GROUP IS THAT OF GRADUATES WHO HAVE ATTENDED OR ARE ATTENDING COLLEGE. (SEE TABLE I.) OUT OF THE TOTAL 140, 59 (OR 42%) OF THE GRADUATES HAVE GONE ON TO COLLEGE. WE CAN SEE FROM OUR STUDY THAT BOTH THE NUMBER AND THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS GOING TO COLLEGES IS INCREASING, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL AID. ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE GOING TO COLLEGES IS MUCH LARGER, THAT DIDN'T AFFECT THE SUCCESS RATE OF THE CLASS OF 1972, WHICH IS STILL HIGH. OF THE 32 GRADUATES WHO HAVE COME BACK FROM COLLEGES, 23 (OR 72%) OF THEM HAVE COMPLETED THEIR STUDIES. THE OTHER 9 (OR 28%) DIDN'T COMPLETE THEIRS BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL AND ACADEMIC PROBLEMS.

OUT OF OUR TOTAL 59 WHO WENT TO COLLEGE, ONE-HALF OF THEM ATTENDED OR ARE ATTENDING COLLEGE IN MICRONESIA OR IN GUAM, 15 OF THEM AT COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA, AND 15 AT UNIVERSITY OF GUAM. THE OTHERS, WE PRESUME, ATTENDED COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES. WE CAN SEE THAT THE CLASS OF 1972 HAD A BETTER CHANCE OF GOING TO COLLEGE BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN FINANCIAL AID AND THE IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR HIGH SCHOOL BACKGROUND. BESIDES, A GREATER VARIETY AND NUMBER OF COLLEGES WERE AVAILABLE FOR THE CLASS OF 1972 THAN THE PREVIOUS CLASSES.

THE VARIETY AND NUMBER OF SPECIAL TRAINING SCHOOLS THAT THE GRADUATES OF 1972 ATTENDED DID NOT CHANGE MUCH. ASIDE FROM THE OTHER REGULAR TRAINING PROGRAMS LIKE POLICE TRAINING, MOC IN PALAU AND THE T.T. NURSING SCHOOL IN SAIPAN WERE ALSO IN EXISTENCE BY THIS TIME. UNLIKE THE GRADUATES OF 1966, MOST OF THE 1972 GRADUATES WHO WENT TO SPECIAL TRAINING LEFT SOME TIME AFTER GRADUATION RATHER THAN GETTING A JOB AND WAITING FOR THE DEPARTMENTS TO SENT THEM OFF. ONLY 3 WHO WERE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GET JOBS AFTER GRADUATION, WAITED UNTIL THEIR DEPARTMENTS SENT THEM OFF FOR TRAINING.

EVEN THOUGH THE NUMBER OF 1972 GRADUATES GOING TO SPECIAL TRAINING INCREASED IN COMPARISON WITH 1966 GRADUATES, THE PERCENTAGE DECREASED. ACCORDING TO OUR STATISTICS, ONLY 29 (OR 21%) OF THE 140 GRADUATES WENT ON TO SPECIAL TRAINING. FROM THIS WE ASSUME THAT STUDENTS ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN GOING ON TO COLLEGE RATHER THAN SPECIAL TRAINING. OF THE TOTAL 29 WHO WENT TO SPECIAL TRAINING, 22 (OR 76%) OF THEM MANAGED TO COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES. THE OTHER 7 (OR 24%) DIDN'T COMPLETE THEIR PROGRAMS BECAUSE OF PREGNANCY AND ACADEMIC PROBLEMS. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT OF THE 29 WHO WENT ON TO SPECIAL TRAINING, 25 OF THEM WENT TO MOC.

THERE IS ONE IMPORTANT POINT WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE READERS: NAMELY, 55% OF THE 88 WHO WENT ON FOR EITHER COLLEGE OR SPECIAL TRAINING, WENT TO EITHER CCM OR MOC. THIS MEANS THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE GRADUATES OF 1972 WHO HAVE GONE ON FOR MORE EDUCATION HAVE RECEIVED THEIR FURTHER EDUCATION HERE IN MICRONESIA. IN ADDITION, 15 MORE WENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM. IF CCM AND MOC WERE NOT IN OPERATION, THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE LARGE INCREASE IN PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO WENT ON FOR FURTHER SCHOOLING.

OF THE TOTAL 88 WHO WENT ABROAD, 29 (OR 33%) ARE STILL IN SCHOOL ABROAD: 27 IN COLLEGE AND 2 IN SPECIAL TRAINING. REGARDING THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE 27 IN COLLEGE, WE HAVE SOME LIMITED INFORMATION WHICH WAS SENT BY THE STUDENT SERVICES OFFICE IN SAIPAN. WE WERE TOLD THAT MOST OF THESE GRADUATES ARE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING, AND SOME OF THEM WILL BE GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE THIS YEAR.

THE REMAINING 52 (OR 37%) OF THE 140 DIDN'T HAVE ANY KIND OF FURTHER EDUCATION AT ALL. WE ASSUME THAT THESE PEOPLE PREFERRED TO STAY BACK AND WORK BECAUSE THREE-FOURTHS OF THEM, 38, ARE EMPLOYED.

IN GENERAL, THE CLASS OF 1972 WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE CLASS OF 1966 IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS: A) BIG INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GRADUATES, B) MORE PEOPLE GOING ABROAD, C) EXPANSION OF VARIETY AND NUMBER OF COLLEGES, AND D) SOMEWHAT BETTER FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS. EVEN THOUGH MOST OF THE GRADUATES OF 1972 WENT TO COM OR MOC, THERE WERE MORE COLLEGES MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GRADUATES FOR APPLICATION AND ADMISSION THAN THE PREVIOUS CLASSES. WE, THEREFORE, CONCLUDE THAT FOR THE REASONS ABOVE, THE MAJORITY OF THEM WENT ON TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION, WITH MOST OF THEM COMPLETING THEIR STUDIES.

EMPLOYMENT

IN THIS SECTION, 111 GRADUATES ARE USED AS THE BASE NUMBER SINCE THE OTHER 29 GRADUATES ARE STILL IN SCHOOL AND ARE INELIGIBLE FOR EMPLOYMENT. AS YOU CAN SEE IN TABLE 2, EMPLOYMENT IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR CATEGORIES: FULL-EMPLOYMENT, SEMI-EMPLOYMENT, SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY, AND UNOCCUPIED.

OUT OF THE 111 GRADUATES, 71 (OR 64%) ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED. FULL-EMPLOYMENT INCLUDES ALL THOSE WHO ARE GETTING A SALARY BIWEEKLY; THEIR EMPLOYMENT MAY EITHER BE IN THE GOVERNMENT OR IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. OF THE 71 GRADUATES, ONLY 15 ARE WORKING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THIS IS REALLY A RATIO OF 5:1 PEOPLE WORKING IN THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR. THIS SHOWS THAT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT IS MORE DESIREABLE FOR THE GRADUATES OF 1972, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF THE BETTER SALARY THE GOVERNMENT OFFERS.

FURTHER STUDY SHOWED THAT OF THE GRADUATES WORKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT, ABOUT 2/3, OR 38 OF THEM, ARE WORKING FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. OF THESE 38 WORKING IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 32 ARE FULL-TIME TEACHERS. (REFER TO TABLE 2.)

IF YOU LOOK AT TABLE 2 AGAIN, YOU WILL FIND THAT 5 (OR 4%) GRADUATES ARE ONLY SEMI-EMPLOYED. SEMI-EMPLOYMENT INCLUDES ALL THOSE WHO ARE WORKING AS PART-TIME EMPLOYEES, AND THOSE WHO ARE WORKING ON CERTAIN OCCASIONS, SUCH AS SANTA FE EMPLOYEES, BOAT OPERATORS, TAXI DRIVERS AND OTHERS.

12, OR 11% OF THE TOTAL 111 GRADUATES, ARE IN THE SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY. ALL OF THESE 12 GRADUATES ARE LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS WORKING ON THEIR LANDS AND HELPING THEIR FAMILIES. A FEW OF THESE 12 GRADUATES ARE EVENTUALLY HOPING TO EITHER FIND JOBS OR FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION, ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION WE HAVE GATHERED.

THE UNOCCUPIED GRADUATES NUMBER 23, OR 21% OF THE TOTAL. THEY ARE ALL MALES, EXCEPT FOR 7 WHO ARE HOUSEWIVES. MOST OF THESE YOUNG MEN ARE STAYING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS. WHEN ASKED WHY THEY AREN'T EMPLOYED, THEY SAID THAT THEY COULDN'T FIND JOBS, ALTHOUGH SOME ARE STILL HOPING EVENTUALLY TO FIND JOBS.

IN COMPARING THE CLASS OF 1966 AND 1972 IN EMPLOYMENT, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES WORKING HAS GREATLY DECREASED. WE CAN FORSEE THAT ALL THE GRADUATING CLASSES AFTER THE CLASS OF 1972 WILL HAVE A VERY HARD TIME FINDING JOBS. IT IS NOT BECAUSE THE GRADUATES ARE NOT QUALIFIED BUT BECAUSE THERE JUST AREN'T AS MANY JOBS AVAILABLE.

RESIDENCE

AS WE HAVE MENTIONED WHEN WRITING ABOUT THE RESIDENCE OF THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1966, OUR OBJECTIVE WAS TO FIND OUT WHERE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES LIVE AFTER GRADUATION. WE TRIED TO INVESTIGATE THE COMMON BELIEF THAT MOST HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES TEND TO MOVE TO THE DISTRICT CENTER WHERE THE EXCITEMENT AND SALARIED-JOBS ARE. OUR STUDY SHOWS THAT THE LARGEST GROUP IS STILL THOSE RESIDING ON HOME ISLANDS, BUT THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE MOVING TO THE DISTRICT CENTER.

OUR STATISTICS ON THE CLASS OF 1972 SHOW THAT 50 (OR 45%) GRADUATES ARE RESIDING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS, INCLUDING 8 MOENESE. HOWEVER, IF YOU LOOK AT THE PERCENTAGE OF THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1966, YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THERE IS A LARGE DIFFERENCE IN PERCENTAGE. (SEE TABLE 3.) THIS MEANS THAT AFTER SIX YEARS THERE IS A 25% DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF THOSE LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS.

IF YOU LOOK AT THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE GRADUATES WHO HAVE MOVED TO MOEN YOU WILL REALIZE THAT THERE IS A LARGE INCREASE COMPARED TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1966. OUT OF THE 111 GRADUATES, 43 (OR 39%) HAVE MOVED TO THE DISTRICT CENTER. ALL OF THESE MIGRANTS ARE FULLY-EMPLOYED EXCEPT FOR 6 YOUNG WOMEN WHO ARE ALL HOUSEWIVES. WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE CAUSE OF THIS MIGRATION TO THE DISTRICT CENTER IS JOB-SEEKING.

THE THIRD LARGEST CATEGORY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE MOVED TO OTHER ISLANDS IN TRUK ASIDE FROM MOEN. OUR STATISTICS SHOW THAT THERE ARE 12 OF THEM. SEVEN OF THEM WHO ARE HOUSEWIVES MOVED WITH THEIR HUSBANDS, THREE OTHERS MOVED TO TEACH AT THE SCHOOLS WHERE THEY FOUND POSITIONS, AND TWO ARE LIVING WITH THEIR WIVES' FAMILIES.

OUR LAST CATEGORY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE MOVED FROM TRUK TO OTHER DISTRICTS AND OUTSIDE OF MICRONESIA. THERE ARE SIX OF THEM, FIVE OF WHOM ARE RESIDING ON PONAPE. THREE OF THEM ARE EMPLOYED AND TWO ARE LIVING WITH RELATIVES. THE OTHER IS A FEMALE WHO GOT MARRIED TO AN OUTSIDER DURING HER COLLEGE YEARS AND WENT TO NEW MEXICO WITH HER HUSBAND.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE ONLY SIX YEARS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO GRADUATING CLASSES OF 1966 AND 1972, THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE GRADUATES, MOVING TO THE DISTRICT CENTER DOUBLED AS THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE LIVING ON HOME ISLANDS DECREASED. THE MAIN CAUSE OF THIS MIGRATION TO THE DISTRICT CENTER IS JOB-SEEKING. THUS OUR PREDICTION IS THAT THE PERCENTAGE WILL KEEP RISING UNTIL THERE ARE NO MORE JOBS AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT CENTER.

STABILITY

THE STABILITY OF THE 1972 GRADUATING CLASS OF TRUK HIGH SCHOOL DEPENDS MAINLY ON THEIR MARITAL STATUS AND THEIR BEHAVIOUR INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THEIR COMMUNITIES. OUR TOTAL HERE WILL BE 110, SINCE WE CAN'T GET ANY INFORMATION ON THOSE 29 WHO ARE STILL IN COLLEGE AND ONE MORE WHOM WE COULDN'T TRACK DOWN.

FROM OUR STATISTICS WE FOUND OUT THAT OF THESE 110 GRADUATES, 77 (OR 70%) ARE PERMANENTLY MARRIED AND 33 (OR 30%) ARE SINGLE. ACCORDING TO OUR INTERVIEWS, ALL OF THESE MARRIED GRADUATES ARE SETTLED DOWN BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE A FAMILY TO HANDLE.

CONCERNING THEIR BEHAVIOUR, WE FOLLOWED THE SAME PROCEDURE AS WE DID TO THE GRADUATES OF 1966. AS FOR THE POLICE ARRESTS, WE WERE TOLD BY OUR RELIABLE SOURCES THAT 24 (OR 22%) WERE ARRESTED BEFORE. AMONG THESE 24 ARRESTEES, 18 ARE SINGLE AND NO FEMALE INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER. THERE ARE ONLY TWO MAIN CAUSES OF THEIR ARRESTS: DRINKING WITHOUT PERMIT AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT. THESE WERE THE SAME CAUSES OF ARREST AS WERE FOUND AMONG THE 1966 GRADUATES, AND THEY ARE COMMON CHARGES AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN TRUK. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ANY OF THESE GRADUATES HAVE BEEN A SOURCE OF SERIOUS TROUBLE IN THE COMMUNITY.

IV. SUMMARY

IN COMPARING THESE TWO CLASSES OF 1966 AND 1972, WE HAVE COME TO MANY INTERESTING CONSLUSIONS. BELOW WE WILL PRESENT OUR COMPARISONS ACCORDING TO THE FOUR MAJOR CATEGORIES:

EDUCATION

OUT OF THE 44 WHO GRADUATED IN 1966, THERE WERE ONLY 18% WHO WENT ON TO FURTHER EDUCATION WHICH INVOLVED SOME FORM OF COLLEGE PROGRAM. IN THE CLASS OF 1972, THERE WAS A FAR BIGGER PERCENTAGE (42%) THAT WENT ON TO COLLEGE. THIS SHOWS THAT A GREATER PERCENTAGE OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ARE GOING ABROAD FOR FURTHER EDUCATION.

IN THE CLASS OF 1966, 50% DID NOT HAVE ANY KIND OF FURTHER EDUCATION. EVEN THOUGH THE CLASS OF 1972 WAS MUCH LARGER THAN THE CLASS OF 1966, A SMALLER PERCENTAGE - 37% - DID NOT GO ON FOR ANY KIND OF FURTHER EDUCATION. THIS AGAIN INDICATES THAT MORE AND MORE STUDENTS ARE GOING ABROAD FOR FURTHER EDUCATION.

ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT IN THE COMPARISON OF THESE TWO CLASSES IS THE TIME WHEN THE GRADUATES LEAVE FOR COLLEGE. 1966 GRADUATES MOSTLY LEFT A FEW YEARS AFTER GRADUATION DUE TO THEIR FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES. MOST OF THE 1972 GRADUATES, HOWEVER, DEPARTED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER GRADUATION. (REFER TO TABLE 1)

THE SUCCESS RATE OF GRADUATES WHO HAVE GONE ON TO COLLEGE AND SPECIAL TRAINING IS ABOUT THE SAME IN BOTH CLASSES.

EMPLOYMENT

ONLY 2 OUT OF ALL THE GRADUATES OF 1966 DO NOT HAVE FULL-TIME SALARIED JOBS. 95% OF THE WHOLE CLASS OF 1966 IS FULLY-EMPLOYED. IN THE CLASS OF 1972, ONLY 64% IS FULLY-EMPLOYED. THIS INDICATES THAT A SMALLER PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES ARE GETTING JOBS AFTER THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION.

OF THE CLASS OF 1966, 90% ARE WORKING IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR AND ONLY 5% WORKING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. IN THE CLASS OF 1972, 50% ARE EMPLOYED IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR, AND 14% EMPLOYED IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. OVER THE PERIOD OF SIX YEARS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT HAS INCREASED FROM 5% OF A SMALL NUMBER OF GRADUATES TO 14% OF A MUCH GREATER NUMBER OF GRADUATES. ANOTHER INTERESTING CONCLUSION IS THAT ALTHOUGH THERE IS A LARGER NUMBER EMPLOYED IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR, THE PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES WORKING FOR THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECREASED BY 1/3.

THE OTHER SIGNIFICANT FIGURE IN OUR EMPLOYMENT PART IS THE INCREASE IN UNOCCUPIED SECTION. IN THE CLASS OF 1966, 0% WAS UNOCCUPIED, HOWEVER, IN THE CLASS OF 1972, THERE WAS AN INCREASE OF 21%. THIS OBVIOUSLY SHOWS THAT THERE ARE MORE AND MORE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WHO ARE UNOCCUPIED. (REFER TO TABLE 2.)

RESIDENCE

WE FIND THAT 70% OF THE GRADUATES OF 1966 ARE PRESENTLY LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS. THE OTHER 30% ARE LIVING ON MOEN, OTHER ISLANDS IN TRUK, AND IN OTHER DISTRICTS. THERE IS A GREAT DECREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE LIVING ON HOME ISLANDS, AS WE DISCOVERED WITH THE CLASS OF 1972. ONLY 45% OF THE WHOLE CLASS OF 1972 ARE NOW LIVING ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS. THIS MAY BE DUE TO THE LACK OF JOBS AVAILABLE ON THEIR HOME ISLANDS, BECAUSE WE ALSO FOUND OUT THAT MOST OF THE OUTER ISLANDERS WHO MOVED TO MOEN ARE WORKING. SO WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE STAYING IN THE DISTRICT CENTER TO FIND EMPLOYMENT.

STABILITY

IN GENERAL WE MAY SAY THAT BOTH CLASSES ARE WELL SETTLED. AS SHOWN IN OUR STATISTICS, ONLY 3 OUT OF THE GRADUATES OF 1966 ARE NOT MARRIED, AND MORE THAN HALF OF THE CLASS OF 1972 ARE MARRIED. ALTHOUGH NOT ALL OF THE GRADUATES OF 1972 ARE MARRIED, WE ARE NOT DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE THEY HAVE HAD A SHORTER TIME TO FIND A WIFE AND GET SETTLED DOWN.

AS FAR AS TROUBLE-MAKING GOES, WE FOUND THAT THE FEW WHO WERE ARRESTED WERE ARRESTED ONLY ON MINOR CASES. FROM THIS WE CONCLUDE THAT BOTH CLASSES ARE NOT TROUBLE-SOME AND THAT THEY ARE QUITE SETTLED IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

NOW THAT WE HAVE SHOWN YOU OUR FINDINGS, WE BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE ALREADY GOTTEN A GLIMPSE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN TRUK.

WE CONCLUDE WITH A LOOK AT THE FUTURE. THERE ARE FEW ADDITIONAL JOBS NOW AVAILABLE IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYMENT HAS INCREASED ONLY SLIGHTLY DURING THE PAST YEARS. THE NUMBER OF GRADUATES SINCE 1972 IS MORE THAN 800. NOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THESE GRADUATES? AS WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN, MORE AND MORE GRADUATES SEEM TO STAY BACK ON MOEN TO LOOK FOR JOBS, AND WHEN THEY FIND JOBS THEY STAY PERMANENTLY IN THE DISTRICT CENTER. CAN MOEN AFFORD TO ACCOMODATE ALL OF THESE GRADUATES AND PROVIDE JOBS FOR THEM? THIS IS THE QUESTION THAT OUR GROUP BELIEVES SHOULD BE ANSWERED.

TABLE I

EDUCATION

		CLASS OF 1966 No.	CLASS OF 1972 No.	CLASS OF 1972 %
COLLEGE		7	18	59
SPECIAL TRAINING		12	32	29
NO FURTHER EDUCATION		19	50	52
<u>TOTAL</u>		38	100	100

TABLE II

EMPLOYMENT

		CLASS OF 1966 No.	CLASS OF 1972 No.	CLASS OF 1972 %
GOVERNMENT		33	90	56
EDUCATION	(25)		(55)	
OTHER	(8)		(18)	
PRIVATE	2	5	15	14
SEMI-EMPLOYMENT	0	0	5	4
SUSISTENCE ECONOMY	2	5	12	11
UNEMPLOYED	0	0	23	21
<u>TOTAL</u>	37	100	111	100

NOTE: BECAUSE OF THE PEOPLE STILL IN SCHOOL, WE CAN EXPECT THE BASE NUMBERS TO BE DIFFERENT. IN THE FIRST TABLE, WE ARE USING THE ABSOLUTE TOTAL OF GRADUATES TRACKED DOWN BECAUSE EVERYONE SHOULD FALL UNDER EITHER ONE OF THE GIVEN CATEGORIES. THEY EITHER HAD SOME KIND OF FURTHER EDUCATION OR NOTHING AT ALL. THE OTHER TABLES HAVE VARIED BASE NUMBERS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL IN SCHOOL ARE COUNTED NEITHER UNDER EMPLOYMENT NOR RESIDENCE.

TABLE III

RESIDENCE

	CLASS OF No.	1966 %	CLASS OF No.	1972 %
HOME ISLANDS	26	70	50	45
MOEN	7	19	43	39
OTHER ISLANDS IN TRUK	3	8	12	11
OUTSIDE OF TRUK	1	3	6	5
<u>TOTAL</u>	37	100	111	100

NOTE: IN TABLE 3, WE ARE USING 37 AS OUR BASE NUMBER FOR THE RESIDENCE OF 1966 CLASS BECAUSE 1 OF THESE GRADUATES IS STILL IN COLLEGE. FOR THE RESIDENCE OF 1972 CLASS, WE ARE USING 111 AS THE BASE NUMBER BECAUSE 29 ARE STILL IN SCHOOL.

TABLE IV

RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT OF CLASS OF 1972

	MOEN	HOME IS.	OTHER	<u>TOTAL</u>
FULLY-EMPLOYED	35	28	8	71
SEMI-EMPLOYED	0	3	2	5
UNOCCUPIED	7	11	5	23
SUBSISTENCE	1	10	1	12
<u>TOTAL</u>	43	52	16	111