

Taiwan president stops briefly on Guam

By Amritha Alladi

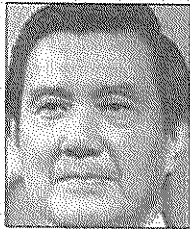
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aalladi@guampdn.com

Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou early yesterday morning stopped on Guam, confirmed Vince Tsai, director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office on Guam.

Ma stopped on Guam for about an hour to refuel, on his

way to the Marshall Islands, Tsai said.



Ma

The chartered China Airlines flight arrived on Guam around 1:50 a.m. and left at about 2:50 a.m., Tsai said.

From Guam, Ma and his 90-person entourage will visit six Pacific island nations, the Taiwanese Central

News Agency reported.

The agency reported last week that Ma also is scheduled to make a 90-minute Guam stop on Saturday on his journey home.

However, Tsai said Ma would be stopping on Guam on Friday on his return journey, but couldn't say whether he would be meeting with anyone on Guam.



Camacho

The governor's spokeswoman, Charlene Calip, said the governor was scheduled to greet Ma during his refueling stop yesterday, but couldn't make it. She said Camacho may try to meet Ma when he stops over again later this week.

Tsai said he couldn't confirm any meetings.

'The United States has approved Taiwan's re-

quest for the transit stops" on Guam, Taiwan Foreign Minister Timothy Yang said March 16, the Central News Agency reported.

Ma is traveling to the Solomon Islands, Palau, the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and Tuvalu, according to the Central News Agency in Taiwan. The purpose of the trip is to meet with the six allies in the Pacific and to promote friendly relations, Tsai said.