

Population History of Guam: Context of Microevolution

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The status of population history studies in the Pacific has advanced materially in recent years, culminating in such significant publications as those by McArthur (1968), Schmitt (1968), Pool (1961 *et seq.*), Voisin (1962), and others. Notably, comparable advances have not been forthcoming from the Micronesian area. Thus, the earlier statement by Taeuber and Han (1950) concerning the state of demographic knowledge of this region is still pertinent, while modern investigations into the historical demography of Micronesia have scarcely begun. This situation represents a serious deficiency in the development of research in the microevolution of Micronesian populations, since physical anthropology has long since accepted the critical need for understanding the population matrix of evolutionary process (Cavalli-Sforza and Bodmer, 1971; Salzano *et al.*, 1967; *inter alia*).

An earlier attempt to summarize existing sources related to the population history and dynamics of Micronesian islands (Hainline, 1964) provided the basis for an initial interpretation of the genetic and biological divergencies observed by various students in this area (Hunt, 1950a, 1950b; Hasebe, 1938), but the subject has barely been tapped. Additional materials have come to light,² requiring a more intensive review and evaluation of the population history of each of the major areas within the Micronesian region as a background to the reinterpretation of the evolutionary history of these populations. Only in the light of such greater knowledge can the accuracy of generalized interpretations of the evolution of these groups be tested (Gajdusek, 1964) or problems in the interpretation of evolutionary processes operating in such small-scale populations be resolved (Giles *et al.*, 1966; Cadien, 1971; Morton *et al.*, 1971a, 1971b).

I. BACKGROUND

Micronesia includes the northwestern portion of the Pacific Ocean, lying north of the equator and west of 180° longitude. Contained within this expanse are over 2000 land forms, of which about 120 identified islands and atolls are recognized

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