

Sen. Fong: Wants Hawaii to Annex Samoa, Guam, Other Pacific Islands

By Richard Halloran
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Within two weeks, Sen. Hiram L. Fong (R-Hawaii) will introduce a resolution that could lead to expansion of American national borders to the western reaches of the Pacific Ocean.

Fong's plan calls for the state of Hawaii to annex the Marianas, Caroline and Marshall Islands, now administered by the United States under a United Nations trust.

American Samoa and Guam, territories of the United States, might also be included. Western Samoa, once under New Zealand trusteeship, is now an independent state.

The Senator said yesterday that the 87,000 inhabitants of the trust territory are in a colonial status, to which the United States does not subscribe.

"Why not offer them first-class citizenship?" he said.

Fong said his resolution will ask for a consensus of Congress on whether the idea is feasible. If it is, the next step will be a plebiscite in the trust territory and a vote in Hawaii. Then U.N. approval would be asked. Final action would be up to Congress.

In the trust territory this week, first steps toward self government were taken with the formation of a Congress of Micronesia.

At a meeting on Saipan, representatives from the various islands elected officers and committees of the Congress and began work on legislation to improve education, accelerate hospital building, and draw up a 1966 budget.

Fong revealed his plan Monday during a debate in the Senate on reapportionment. He was immediately support-

ed by Sen. Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska) and Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough (D-Tex.).

Gruening said that Hawaii should take the lead in this project not only for geographical reasons but because it is "a shining example of ethnic democracy." He backed the plan even though it may make Hawaii the Nation's largest state, replacing Alaska.

Yarborough noted that Hawaiians had spread all through the islands of the trust territory. "Our history is characterized," he said, "by the western movement of our people."

President's Schedule

1:15 p.m.—Lincoln Tamraz, national commander of the Amvets; Don Spagnolo, executive director, and Anthony Caserta, president of the Service Foundation of the Amvets.

5—Receives report from nine committee chairmen of the White House Conference on Education.

3:30—Speaks to delegates at Conference on Education.

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Guam Protests Annexation Bid By Hawaii's Fong

Guam's representative in Washington yesterday criticized a proposal by Sen. Hiram L. Fong (R-Hawaii) that Hawaii annex Guam, Samoa, and the trust territories in the Western Pacific.

Rep. Antonio B. Won Pat said: "This proposal would simply mean the substitution of one form of absentee government for another. Hawaii is too far from Guam and the other Western Pacific islands to provide them with the form of democratic government they are seeking."

The Guam representative called for incorporating Guam with the Marianas, Caroline, and Marshall islands, now administered by the United States under a United Nations trust. Under this plan, the new territory would have its capital at ~~Agaña~~ Guam.

