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2ND. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

RESOLUTION NO. 43-1967

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INTRODUCED BY: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO FULLY ENDORSING
THE PROPOSED PLAN TO RE-ESTABLISH MILITARY
INSTALLATIONS IN ROTA, TINIAN, SALPAN, AND
THE NORTHERN ISLANDS, AND URGING THE
REINTEGRATION OF THESE ISLANDS WITH THE
TERRITORY OF GUAM.

WHEREAS, according to an article that appeared in U.S. News & World Report
on August 7, 1967, top military advisors within the U.S. Defense Department
favor fortifying Rota, Tinian, and Salpan to create a buffer between Red China
and the intermediate-range ballistic missiles, but close enough to function as
a defense for the continental United States; and

...; ONE ISLAND IN THE MARIANAS, CONTAINING GUN, AND LOCATED 2,000 miles from Red China and has ample space for missile bases, atomic bombers and channels that can handle large aircraft carriers; and

WHEREAS, realizing the mistake made in World War II, when the military might of the United States was centered on Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands, and the single attack on Pearl Harbor severely curtailed retaliation, the Marianas is so spread out that retaliation in the event of an attack could be immediate; and

WHEREAS, the inhabitants of the Mariana Islands District, excluding Rota, have enjoyed occupation by the United States military forces almost continuously from July 1944 through July 1961, which was one of friendly cooperation between military personnel and the local inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, agitation for the return of Okinawa to Japan has increased, and according to most authorities, the demand for reversion of Okinawa is the gravest problem affecting Japanese-American relations; and

WHEREAS, rather than risk the loss of Japan's friendship, which is more valuable than occupying Okinawa, the Marianas is the most logical place to move with military installations; and

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WHEREAS, the U.S. military installations on Guam have proven their value to halting communist aggression in Southeast Asia and expanding into Rota, Tinian, and Saipan would increase the military effectiveness in conflicts of this sort; and

WHEREAS, while Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands are under the administration of the Trust Territory Government, by virtue of the Trusteeship Agreement entered into between the Security Council of the United Nations and the United States Government, this is classified as a strategic area and as such, the United States is free to establish naval, military and air bases and to erect any fortification in the Trust Territory as it may deem necessary to insure international peace; and

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plished with the establishment of Kwajalein Test Site in the Marshall Islands, which is part of the Trust Territory, and the now public knowledge that extensive military and military-type installations were on Tinian and Saipan until 1961; and

WHEREAS, the Mariana Islands District are under the jurisdiction of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands due to a historical accident that occurred in the language of the Treaty of Paris, which should have read "Guam and the Mariana Islands", as the indigenous inhabitants of Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands are all one race, known as Chamorros, having a common language, religion, culture, customs, and traditions; and

WHEREAS, prior to the signing of the Treaty of Paris ending the Spanish-American War, Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands had a common history as all these islands had been administered by Spain since the 16th century; and

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WHEREAS, while the Spanish Empire had control over the entire area, known as the Trust Territory, closer ties existed between the indigenous inhabitants of the Mariana Islands because Spain removed all inhabitants from Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands to Guam for a period of 150 years as it made the administration of the inhabitants easier; and

WHEREAS, the separation of Guam from the rest of the Mariana Islands by the Treaty of Paris has always been considered to have been the result of an oversight by the United States which did not realize at that time the existence of the common ties that existed among the people and the future military importance of this area of the world; and

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among the islands was curbed which has and still causes great sorrow and inconvenience, especially to those family members who found themselves separated; and

WHEREAS, in many quarters, it is hoped that there is a growing cohesion for a unified Micronesia, including the Mariana Islands District, but it should be noted that Chapter XII, Article 76, sub-paragraph (b), of the Charter of the United Nations, as it relates to the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System, obligates the administering authority:

"...to promote the political, economic, social, and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the trust territories, and their progressive development towards self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of each territory and its people and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned..." (underlining added); and

WHEREAS, the people of the Mariana Islands District have determined almost unanimously that they strongly desire to become a part of the United States as was evidenced by the plebiscites held in the Marianas in 1961 and in 1963,

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which were evidences of the "freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned"; and

WHEREAS, officials of the United States Department of the Interior and the United States Department of State are engaging in "wishful thinking" by hoping for a united Micronesia, which includes the islands of Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands, because we only desire to be reintegrated with our people living in the Territory of Guam; and

WHEREAS, this aspiration does not intend directly or indirectly, or under any circumstances should it be regarded as to imply racial discrimination towards inhabitants of the other islands within the Trust Territory, but unlike the inhabitants of the other districts, the inhabitants of Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands are of Guamanian descent and are entirely similar in culture, language, customs, religion, and have mutual aspirations; and

MEMBERS, to enhance and quicken fruition of that aspiration, it is urged that the United States Government fortify Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands, making an administrative union with Guam and a territory of the Marianas, and the "rest of Micronesia could go its own way";

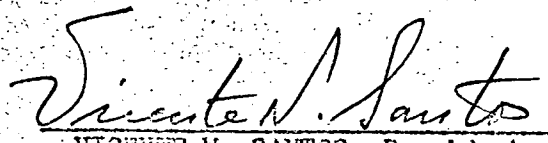
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 2nd. Mariana Islands District Legislature that the proposed plan to re-establish military installations in Rota, Tinian, and Saipan be and is hereby fully endorsed and it is urged that these islands be reintegrated with the Territory of Guam; and

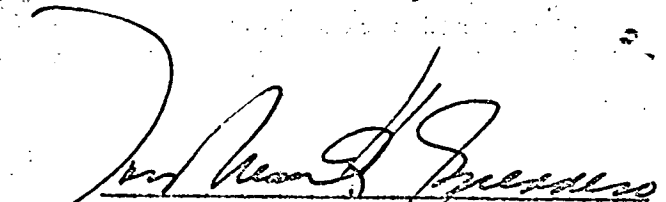
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and thereafter transmit copies of the same to the District Administrator, Mariana Islands District, the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the United States Department of State, the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense, the Speaker

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of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the President of the United States of America, and the Chairman of the United Nations Trusteeship Council.

PASSED BY THE 2ND. MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AUGUST 28, 1967.


VICENTE N. SANTOS, President


HERMAN Q. GUERRERO, Secretary