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August 5, 1968

Dear Mr. <sup>x</sup>Wen Pat: *Antonio B.*

The President some time ago asked me to thank you for your letter expressing your concern about the Trust Territory and enclosing the clipping from the Guam newspaper. I apologize for my delay in answering your letter, but I wanted to give it the attention it warrants and the press of immediate business made an earlier reply difficult.

I believe that the record of this Administration fully reflects the deep interest of the President and the Congress in the Trust Territory. During the past four years, we have doubled appropriations from \$15 million in 1964 to \$30 million in FY 1968. In the same period, elementary and high school enrollment has been increased from 18,000 to 23,000 pupils, while the number of college scholarships has gone from 196 to 300.

In the near future, the first modern hospital ever constructed in the Territory will be built, and it will be followed by a start on a major teaching-referral hospital on Pocos. Meanwhile, we have laid the groundwork for air service competition in the Territory. A positive plan for a hotel-resort development with Micronesian participation has been formulated.

As you know, the damages inflicted by Typhoon Jean in April were a serious economic and psychological blow to the people of the Marianas and the Truk district. Subsequently, however, the President allocated more than \$8.5 million for typhoon relief, most of which will go to the Marianas and to Saipan. In April, the President personally directed the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make available an additional \$4 million for the purchase of Guam home mortgages by the FNMA.

Furthermore, a supplemental appropriation of \$6 million was obtained to augment the resources already made available to the Trust Territory by the United States. Despite the fiscal restrictions under which the Federal Government is currently operating, we were able to obtain most of the budget request for FY 1969.

I am also sure that you know that the Department of the Interior has actively supported proposed legislation which would authorize the election of the Governor of the Trust Territory.

This record demonstrates, I believe, that although our job in the Trust Territory is far from complete, it may fairly be said that the Johnson Administration has made unprecedented major efforts to assist in the economic, social and political development of the Trust Territory. That development will continue to be our goal.

Nevertheless, if some of the political leaders and citizens of Saipan choose to seek tangible assistance from Japan, we certainly wish them well. It is our understanding from press reports, however, that their quest has so far met with only limited success.

Sincerely,

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.  
Special Counsel to the President

Honorable Antonio B. Woa Pat  
Representative  
Territory of Guam  
200 Maryland Avenue, N. E. (Suite 301)  
Washington, D. C. 20242

HCM/DAF/Dept. of Interior/crm

bcc: Mr. Harry R. Anderson  
Ass't Secretary of Interior *act*  
for Public Land Management

RECEIVED  
AUG 5 1968  
GENERAL SERVICES

# All officials are blasted

By GINGER SINNIGEN

Journal Staff Writer

In a move which may prove embarrassing to the United States government, four Saipanese officials left this morning for Tokyo to seek financial assistance from their "friends" in Japan.

The delegation is seeking funds for the rehabilitation of the typhoon-ravaged island, center of the Trust Territory government administered by the United States under a United Nations mandate.

Before they left, the group took a swipe at the Americans who administer the U.S. program.

Those criticisms were directed at the entire administration of the Trust Territory in general. Vicente N. Sanja, president of the Mariana Island District Legislature, outlined their grievances. "We've belonged to four nations," he observed, citing previous masters, the Spanish, Germans, Japanese; and now Americans, "and who knows what tomorrow will bring."

The United States has never asked our opinion when they decide to do something. We're not thinking of the price tag (which may be attached to Japanese assistance). The Japanese are our friends and have offered to help us. We're just innocent bystanders."

The others in the delegation, Vicente D. Sablan, mayor of Saipan, Herman O. Guerrero, speaker of the Saipan Legislature and (Nympha T. Borja, vice-president of the Congress of Micronesia, in response to offers of economic aid from Japanese businessmen, the group is traveling to Tokyo to investigate the opportunities. They had previous

facilities. This amount, they said, did not take into account the losses suffered by individual people of the islands.

And, the amount of assistance pledged to the islands by the United States Office of Emergency Planning was only \$2.5 million, for rehabilitation of government and public facilities. None of that was earmarked for private reconstruction.

Their interest, they said, was to find financing for the people. And they would seek the funds wherever they could get them.

As the officials prepared to board the plane for their pilgrimage to Japan, High Commissioner William Norwood was in Washington attempting to obtain a \$10 million supplemental appropriation for the Trust Territory.

But, they explained, of this amount (which was not guaranteed), only \$3.2 (in the form of loans, would be channeled to the people for low-cost housing, and that would have to be split among the needs of the entire Trust Territory.

They estimated that for the Marianas island alone, at least \$6 million would be needed to provide the type of housing which would withstand the constant threat of typhoons.

"We will seek every avenue of assistance," one of them added.

Motivating their move to employ Japanese assistants, Sanja bluntly stated his opinion.

"Development has been very slow in the Trust Territory. It's not that the United States isn't doing it, it's the people who are sent here. They're not trained. They don't know the customs, the language & the needs of the people."

Hitting away, Santos cited the inequities of salaries between local workers and statesiders. "Local people may get \$ 40 an hour, while a statesider in the same capacity may receive \$4.00 an hour.

"Give us good people, with good minds and good hearts," Santos pleaded, "and the government will run smoothly."

As if to emphasize his point, the legislator continued. "Other countries are making better social advances, the Japanese; for example, because their people are better trained."

"We need people who don't follow the book. Our situation

in the Trust Territory is unique. They (the U.S.) need to see the reality of the islands; needs and throw away the book. They must be imaginative."

"Many of the (American) people are looking for an easy way out," Santos concluded.

And, the other delegates, listening intently to Santos, concurred.

In a prepared statement, Mayor Sablan observed of the trip, "it should be made clearly intended to show an offense to the U.S. government, because we have been offered many times, by our friends in Japan,

any assistance that we may sometimes need, and we feel the time is now here."

"For the welfare of the typhoon-stricken islands, we are going to answer these offers (from Japan)."

"As leaders of our community, we are only thinking of the welfare of our people. We do not wish to create any dissension among people. We are very grateful for the present assistance that we are now receiving from the U.S. government."

Sen. Borja concluded, "The aid coming from the U.S. is no adequate to cover the immediate needs."



HEADING FOR TOKYO, four Saipanese officials seek financial assistance from Japan. Shown from left are Sen. Vicente D. Sablan and Vicente N. Sanja. (Journal photo)



HEADING FOR TOKYO, four Japanese officials pass financial assistance from Japan. Shown from left are Sen. Vicente D. Sablan and Vicente N. Sarina. (Journal photo)

5/10/68

# PACIFIC

Journal



GUAM'S COMPASS

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"We will seek every avenue of assistance," one of them added.

Motivating their move to employ Japanese assistance, Seniors bluntly stated his opinion.

"Development has been very slow in the Trust Territory. It's not that the United States isn't thinking, it's the people who are sent here. They're not trained, they don't know the customs, the language of the needs of the people."

"They're only interested in their pocketbooks. We hope in the future, whoever is sent here gets training and is a dedicated representative of the United States."

"Even though the high commissioner is good, his subordinates are not," said Sablan, "and you can quote me."

...ious matters, the Spanish, Germans, Japanese and now Americans, "and who knows what tomorrow will bring."

"The United States has never asked our opinion when they decide to do something. We're not thinking of the price tag (which may be attached to Japanese assistance). The Japanese are our friends and have offered to help us. We're just innocent bystanders."

The others in the delegation, Vicente D. Sablan, mayor of San Juan, Heagan Q. Guerrero, speaker of the Guaman Legislature and Olympio T. Borja, vice-president of the Congress of Micronesia, nodded their agreement.

In response to offers of economic aid from Japanese businessmen, the group is traveling to Tokyo to investigate the opportunities. They had previously sent a resolution to the United States government of Japan to ask aid in providing financial backing for the building of typhoon-proof housing to replace the shacks which were blown away by twelve hours of gale winds from Typhoon Joan last month.

They also said that the offer...



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Memorandum

JUN -4 1968

To: Harry C. McPherson, Jr.  
Special Counsel to the President

From: Assistant Secretary, Public Land Management

Subject: Letter from Antonio B. Won Pat expressing concern over the growing feeling on the part of the people of the Trust Territory that the United States is neglecting them.

In accordance with your request of May 28, there is enclosed a draft letter from you to Mr. Won Pat acknowledging his letter to the President of May 20. The following comments on the Saipan situation may be of interest to you.

The people of Guam and the Marianas District of the Trust Territory are ethnically and culturally the same. (Guam is geographically the southernmost and largest of the Marianas chain of islands.) They were separated politically as a consequence of the Spanish-American war when the United States retained Guam but returned the remainder of the Spanish Micronesian empire to Spain. There is a substantial "irredentist" movement in the Marianas, fostered by political groups on Guam and in the Marianas, which is urging the association of all of the Marianas with Guam as a territory of the United States -- "a reintegration of the Marianas." This movement is frustrated by the trusteeship agreement with the United Nations and with prevailing United Nations sentiment holding that no part of the Trust Territory can be disposed of until all parts are prepared to come to some determination as to their political future. To dispose of parts of the territory piece-meal, the "fragmentation" concept, would, the United Nations holds, leave toward the end of the process some unviable bits and pieces. Perforce, the United States has accepted this UN view and, instead of pursuing fragmentation, has attempted to move forward the day of determination for all of the territory, including, of course, the Marianas. This situation has been explained to the politicians of Saipan and Guam who have chosen, nonetheless, to continue their policies of "reintegration of the Marianas."

In the wake of Typhoon Jean, which struck Saipan very heavily in mid-April, this political movement took two courses. Immediately following the visit to Saipan of two Guamanian political figures, charges of

incompetence and indifference to the needs of the people of Saipan and Tinian were leveled at the Trust Territory administration. The charges were widely reported in the Guam press and subsequently were picked up by the newspapers in the Trust Territory and elsewhere. These charges were soon echoed by the Saipanese politicians. For they found no one in charge and the High Commissioner at home. They arrived at noon and the High Commissioner was in fact at home - - having lunch. There was no place else for him to have lunch.

The effect of these allegations is to create or to increase popular discontent with the Trust Territory administration and to encourage the "reintegration" movement as a solution.

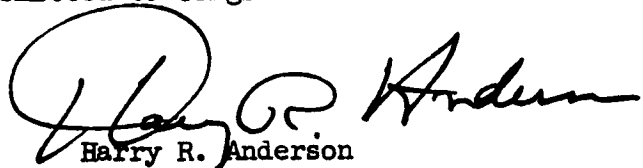
The second course of the irredentist political movement was to seek aid from Japan, ignoring in terms of the public the massive assistance which had been and is being made available by the United States. There is no question but that the amount of private and governmental Japanese interest in the Trust Territory is increasing and a number of formerly relatively impecunious Saipan public figures recently have suddenly found the capital to engage in various business enterprises. It is not possible to track this development fully and completely, but observers of the Micronesian scene have few doubts that these people are serving as fronts for Japanese capital.

In any event, the typhoon evoked expressions of sympathy from Japan and the Saipanese seized upon the opportunity to make a highly publicized visit to Tokyo to obtain aid from "our friends in Japan." The mission to Tokyo has apparently failed to achieve much in the way of help. According to the New York Times of May 26, 1968, the Government of Japan has pledged \$2,000 or \$3,000 and the Prime Minister has personally pledged a like amount.

On the other hand, the United States has made available \$8,500,000 through the Office of Emergency Planning and an additional allowance of up to \$800,000 for emergency housing. Virtually all of this will go to Saipan. The High Commissioner has requested a supplemental appropriation for 1968 which, if approved, will permit the construction of permanent public facilities, including utilities, but, more important, will make a start on the provision of low-cost, typhoon-resistant housing. This is an urgent need throughout the Trust Territory but, because of the heavy typhoon destruction on Saipan, the need is most immediate and acute there. Nearly 90% of private housing is destroyed or severely damaged. In fiscal year 1968, which is fast waning, the Trust Territory

has a \$24,000,000 appropriation against a \$35,000,000 authorization. Thus, there is a maximum of \$11,000,000 which potentially could be made available as a supplemental appropriation without running afoul of the appropriation ceiling. In fiscal year 1969 the authorization remains \$35,000,000, but the budget request was \$34,000,000. The House of Representatives approved \$31,606,000 for 1969 (the appropriations bill is before the Senate Appropriations Committee which has held hearings but has not yet reported the bill).

One of the greatest possible signals of United States' concern for the territory would be the prompt submission of this supplemental request to the Congress including the private housing assistance. Enactment of the supplemental appropriation under the fiscal year 1968 authorization is considered particularly vital in that insufficient authorization exists in fiscal year 1969 to accommodate even the minimum needs of the Micronesians. We urge strongly that the Trust Territory fiscal year 1968 supplemental request be submitted to Congress at the earliest possible date.

  
Harry R. Anderson

Enclosure

Vaccini

530 million 1969

\$6 million supplemental

Dear Mr. Won Pat:

(some time ago) Thank you for

The President has asked me to acknowledge your letter of May 20 with the clipping from the Guam newspaper and to express our

appreciation for your concern about the Trust Territory. I apologize for my delay in responding to your letter, but I wanted to give it the attention it warrants and the press of immediate business made an earlier reply difficult.

We have been bending major efforts to the task of assisting in the economic, social and political development of the Trust Territory although this Administration would be the last to claim that the job has been completed. Obviously, it has not. However, during the past four years,

we have doubled the level of appropriations during the past four years from \$15,000,000 in 1964 to a fiscal year 1969 budget request of \$34,000,000. In the same period we increased elementary and high school enrollment from 18,000 to 23,000 pupils and the number of college scholarships from 196

to 300. With funds contained in the fiscal year 1969 budget request, in the near future, we plan to build the first modern hospital ever to be constructed in the territory and to follow it with a start on a major teaching-referral hospital on Ponape. In the field of economic development, we laid the ground-work for spirited competition for air service in the territory, which has culminated in a jet service which started last month and a positive plan for hotel-resort development with Micronesian participation.

The foregoing examples are cited merely as indications that we have indeed been interested in and concerned about the Trust Territory and its needs. As you know, the damages inflicted by Typhoon Jean last April in the Marianas and in the Truk District were a serious blow and without question struck heavily at public morale. The President has allocated more than

to the people of the

\$8,500,000 for typhoon relief, most of which will go to the Marianas Islands. In April, the President personally directed the Department of HUD to make available and to Saipan, and we are actively considering a supplemental appropriation

Furthermore, a supplemental appropriation of \$6,000,000 was an additional \$4,000,000 for the purchase of Guam home mortgages by the FNMA



obtained to which will materially augment the resources already made available

to the Trust Territory by the United States. The outcome of the latter, <sup>Despite</sup> ~~of course, is closely related to the fiscal problems~~ <sup>Restrictions under</sup> ~~which we are now~~ <sup>the federal govern</sup> operating, \$30,000,000 has been appropriated for 1969. ~~currently facing.~~

<sup>Nevertheless,</sup> If some of the political leaders of Saipan choose to seek assistance from Japan, we would wish them well, although ~~it is our~~ <sup>understanding</sup> ~~from press reports~~ <sup>that their quest has met with</sup> ~~little~~ <sup>so far</sup> ~~success.~~ <sup>only very</sup>

Again, our thanks for your thoughtful and perceptive letter.

I am sure that you also know that the Department of the Interior has actively supported proposed legislation to authorize the election of the Governor of the Trust Territory.

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.

<sup>This record</sup> demonstrates, I believe, that although our job in the Trust Territory is far from complete, it is fair to say that this Administration has made major efforts to assist in the economic, social and political development of the Trust Territory. That will continue to be our goal.

5/29/68

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

To: Secretary of the Interior

Date: May 28, 1968

ACTION REQUESTED

- Draft reply for:
  - President's signature.
  - Undersigned's signature.
- Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- Direct reply.
- Furnish information copy.
- Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- For your information.
- For comment.

NOTE

*Prompt action is essential.*

If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Description:

Letter:  Telegram:  Other:

To: The President  
 From: Rep. Antonio B. Won Pat, Territory of Guam  
 Date: May 20, 1968

Subject: Expresses concern over growing feeling on the part of the people of the Trust Territory that the U. S. is neglecting them with respect to their economic, social and political development; attaches news article which indicates "friends" in Tokyo were being asked to furnish financial assistance rather than the U. S.

By direction of the President:

*Hu*

Harry C. McPherson, Jr.  
 Special Counsel to the President



# Territory of Guam

U.S.A.

OFFICE OF GUAM'S REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON  
200 MARYLAND AVENUE, NE - SUITE 301  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242

May 20, 1968

TELEPHONE:  
WO 3-4655  
CODE 13 EXT 34655  
AREA CODE 202

A. B. WON PAT  
REPRESENTATIVE

*encl*  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

*H*  
As an American citizen and a popularly elected representative of Guam, a part of Micronesia, I have been concerned over the growing feeling on the part of the people of the Trust Territory that they have been somewhat neglected with respect to their economic, social and political development.

Incidents such as the one described in the enclosure can be a subject of embarrassment to us -- the United States.

As of this writing, there is little chance that this manifestation of discontent will spread to Guam, although there will surely be some degree of sympathetic sentiment among Guamanians; and it would be a mistake to take this for granted as an insignificant fact.

I am hopeful that you, Mr. President, and Members of Congress recognize this problem and take immediate necessary action to meet it to the mutual interest of these people and the United States.

Respectfully yours,

Antonio B. Won Pat

Enclosure