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# Won Pat: citizens of Guam losing patience with military

by John E. Simonds  
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WASHINGTON — "The citizens of Guam are losing patience with the U.S. military authorities who control so much of their land and who refuse to talk about releasing it," said Rep. Antonio B. Won Pat today on the floor of the House.

The Guamanian delegate used the military construction bill, which would authorize some \$9.5 million for Navy buildings in Guam as a vehicle to lash out at the Defense Department's repeated refusal to let him see its sanitized "Project Gateway" report on future land needs in Guam.

"The study was completed by the Navy about September 1972 and promptly classified on the grounds that it contains additional material relevant to strategic matters," Won Pat said. He told of writing on March 25, to the Secretary of Defense Elliot Richardson asking that certain portions of the report be classified for civilian use. On May 3, Edward J. Sheridan, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, wrote to Won Pat promising him an unclassified version of the study "within the next few weeks."

"Seven months later, Mr. Speaker, the Governor of Guam and I have yet to lay eyes on this elusive study, despite repeated requests," said Won Pat. Guam's citizens, grateful to the U.S., "did not question the massive land grab by the military" in 1944, Won Pat said, and since that time the military has held more than one-third of the territory.

the citizens of Guam is running out," Won Pat declared, "I do not believe that it is asking too much of our fellow citizens in the military to be honest and above board with us on this issue."

Military officials continue to insist that they need the land for national defense purposes they cannot disclose, Won Pat said, "this despite the fact that they have not made use of (the land) for 25 years. Land on an island only 30 miles long and eight miles wide, every acre counts."

A few days ago Won Pat said he talked with a Navy acquaintance, Rear Adm. Charles D. Grojean, about the "Project Gateway" report. Grojean, Director of the Navy's Political-Military

Policy Division, told him there was nothing of interest to Guam in the report.

Subsequent checks produced a response today from the Pentagon that the report is in Deputy Secretary of Defense William P. Clement's office awaiting approval.

Won Pat's speech said his constituents who work at the bases and the 4,000 Guamanians in the armed forces are "proud" of their role in helping the military, but "I regret to state that the U.S. Navy is relentlessly pursuing a course which will certainly destroy the amiable and close relation between the civilian and military communities on Guam."

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