

Two Lose Tempers At TT Party

SAIPAN. (Congress Release)— A heated exchange of words between Representative Felipe Q. Atalig, who represents Tinian, and Deputy Representative James Wilson of the office of Micronesian Status Negotiations, took place at the close of a party Tuesday night (Dec. 18) at the Royal Taga hotel.

The exchange took place at a reception hosted by the Marianas Political Status Commission for the U.S. negotiating team, and was witnessed by several guests and bystanders.

The following day Atalig wrote a strongly worded letter describing the incident which he sent to Wilson with copies to several high officials.

The discussion related to the homesteading program on Tinian which was terminated by the Trust Territory administration, according to Atalig's letter. What concerned Atalig most was the "attitude and behavior" displayed by Mr. Wilson in terms of the Marianas/U.S. negotiations.

During the fiery discussion, the Ambassador's deputy asked if Atalig was in agreement with the work of the commission. The Congressman responded that he was not if Wilson's attitude was any kind of example of the approach by the United States.

According to Atalig's letter, Mr. Wilson made the statement that if Congressman Atalig does not like it, then he should move out — that he had no business on the island. The Congressman wrote that while he is not anti-American, he is however, against any person who is disrespectful of the feelings and opinions of another person or other people.

Congressman Atalig's letter further noted that he is not

against the goals and objectives of the current Marianas talk, but rather against the frequently "high-handed approaches and arrogance" displayed in the attitudes of certain people on the U.S. negotiating team. "We all realize that America is a powerful nation, but that recognition should never lead one to a belligerent and overbearing attitude when dealing with the citizens of another smaller country," he added.

The verbal exchange started when the Ambassador's deputy asserted that some 83 applicants for homesteads on Tinian were being denied because they failed to improve their property. Atalig refuted Wilson's assertions and stated that if that were the case then letters or notice of noncompliance would have been sent to those applicants. Atalig continued that the 83 applicants whom

Wilson referred to as having been denied homesteads due to noncompliance were new and thus there was yet no need to prove compliance. This, according to Atalig, was confirmed by Tinian Mayor Antonio S. Borja.

The Marianas congressman was an invited guest at the

reception that evening when the verbal exchange occurred. He noted that he was not making the incident known to the people for the sake of publicity but rather he feels that the "attitude and arrogance" manifested by high American officials toward his people must be brought to the attention of the public.

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Wants Hawaii Back

HONOLULU (UPI)— A Hawaiian woman filed a \$300 billion federal court suit Friday, asking that the annexation of Hawaii by the United States be declared illegal.

Acting as her own attorney, Mrs. Peggy Hao Ross asked that the United States district court "dissolve the political bands which have connected the Hawaiian islands to the United States of America..."

Among the defendants are President Nixon, Interior Secretary Rogers Morton, Sen. Henry Jackson D-Washington, who is chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs committee, Hawaii Governor John Burns, and the mayors of Hawaii's four counties.

The suit asks \$100 billion for Mrs. Ross and other Hawaiians "for the damages caused by its (United States of America) unconstitutional acts of overthrowing the lawful government of Hawaii."

Another \$100 billion is asked for "damages caused for the false arrest, personal inconveniences and humiliations that were imposed upon Queen Liliuokalani, her heirs, her associates, and her Hawaiian people."

Mrs. Ross, of pure Hawaiian ancestry, is the mother of 10 and the grandmother of 18. She lives in Kahului, on the island of Maui.