

Press

HAPPY NEW YEAR

MARIANAS NEWS & VIEWS

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Saipanese bormed welcomes the year 1974. "Happy New Year to everybody," he says.

Marianas Population 80,000 Within 6 Years

SAIPAN - Based on actual, proposed, and potential hotel space and full support for the Japanese Tourist potential, 500 possible jobs created by a military base on Tinian years. The Preliminary study postulates three levels of development: "low level" with 500 hotel rooms in operation and under construction, would support

SAIPAN AMERICAN

03-027600

WILSON REVERSED Atalig

SAIPAN, Dec. 26 (MNS)----
In the wake of a public news release from Marianas Congressman Felipe Q. Atalig late last week concerning a discussion between him and U.S. Deputy Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations James M. Wilson, Jr., the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations has released the contents of a letter

written to Representative Atalig by Wilson.
The letter was written before Congressman Atalig made the issue public, according to Status Liaison Officer Mary Vance Trent. It is being released now because the Congressman chose to make the letter he wrote to Wilson concerning

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(See Atalig's story on page 3)

SAIPAN TRAFFIC FATALITY

SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)----
Saipan recorded its third traffic fatality of 1973 Wednesday (Dec. 26). The victim was 12 year-old Donald D. Dela Rosa, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Dela Rosa of Garapan Village, Saipan.

Police said the youth, who according to witnesses was apparently sleeping on

the highway, was struck by a car shortly before seven Wednesday morning in front of the Garapan Shopping Center. He died several hours after the accident at Dr. Torres Hospital.
The name of the driver of the car was not released pending completion of a police investigation into the accident.

and the secondary service jobs that exist or would be created, the population of Saipan and the Marianas could rise to 85,000 by 1980.

A recently completed unofficial summary of population projections based on various levels of tourist development by Marianas Planning Office predicts that population could rise from 18,000 to 85,000 in the next 6

and require a permanent population of 18,000: "Mid level projections suggest 3000 hotel rooms (the 500 rooms plus those already proposed on private lands) and a population of 40,000. "High level," with 5,700 rooms (presently proposed) would generate a population of 85,000 people.

Along with the population and hotel room fig-

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Car owners got panic when they heard Island Gas Stations would be closed on Christmas Day...

WHAT WILL BE WHEN THE BOOM COMES?

In order to increase the effectiveness of the planning, we would like to propose several questions which are raised by the study and left unanswered:

1. What will be the political status of the aliens when they outnumber two or three times the local citizens of the Marianas?
2. What adjustments will be necessary to the land ownership policies now in force concerning alien ownership? Foreign investment?
3. It is easy to project beds and classrooms. What about doctors and teachers? Nurses and administrators?
4. How much money is needed to provide the needed transportation and logistic infrastructure called for by 1980?
5. What is the prognosis for survival of the 'indigenous' races if even the mid-level projection comes to pass?
6. What about job discrimination? Many of the older people will remember the professional restrictions placed on them in Japanese times. Will something similar, even if for different reasons, occur when there are 2 or even 4 aliens for every 'indigenous' member of the labor force?

When a projection is made, it tends to influence decisions and become self-fulfilling. Or maybe just filed away with the other reports and projections that have been made in the past.

There is no question about it, now is the time to be making comprehensive plans for what is going to happen 6 years from now and if there is any credibility to this report, the planners and the authorities are going to have to do some serious thinking right now. The teachers that we want, the doctors, the businessmen and

Marianas Population...

Cont from page 1
 ures, the study projects developmental needs in hospital beds (and classrooms, water, power and sewage system.

An important part of the projections concerns the need for alien labor. The study points out that with almost any development at all of the tourist industry in the Marianas, there is not sufficient labor to fill the jobs. Under the low level prediction, there would be 2000 aliens holding presumable permanent jobs. This compares with the nearly 1000 presently employed, primarily in temporary construction labor. Under the mid level predictions there would be 26,000 aliens residing in the islands and under the high level possibly 50 to 60,000.

The study suggests also that there will be strong

that during the Japanese administration the islands supported a population of 40-60,000.

"We are encouraged by any attempt to plan for the future development of our islands. We are particularly heartened by the wide spread in the projections presenting alternative levels of population."

"Inclusion of hospital bed and classroom needs as well as power and water requirements indicates a serious attempt at comprehensive thinking."

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all the rest are in grade school right now, maybe even high school. Its time to let them know what is going to happen, at least to the best of our ability.

And of course, someone has to answer the question, "Do preferably the majority of the present population, "Do we really want this?"

pressure to relax present immigration laws to allow for more permanent status for the aliens. More of them will be bringing families and establishing permanent residences. Attempts to limit or restrict such trends would create serious social tensions between the aliens and the indigenous population. At present, aliens are permitted into the Trust Territory only under very restrictive conditions.

In concluding, the study points out that without development of tourism, with only 900 headquarters jobs and 500 jobs created by the Military on Tinian, there would be 800 unemployed citizens by 1980.

There is no mention in the projections of the effect of the loss of the Trust Territory administration under some other political arrangement following self-determination or the possible effect of a long range fuel shortage limiting the whole tourist industry.

It should also be noted that the study mentions

saipan continental hotel

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES in the following career fields

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Atalig, Wilson Exchange Words

SAIPAN, Dec. 21, (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 set 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,

the current Marianas talks, 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 refused 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 ap-

cluded by saying indirectly he hoped that Wilson would be replaced and that "...it would be unfortunate if any misunderstanding from this incident were allowed to mar in any way (what) I believe to be the pleasant and useful relations between the United States and Micronesia--especially the Marianas District. I look forward to their continuation for the mutual benefit of our respective countries," the letter ended.

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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

placards 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.

The Congressman's letter went on to say, "It is fortunate that Mr. Wilson in his capacity as a subaltern in Mr. William's coterie did not epitomize the approach of the U.S. delegation. If this were true, then I can foresee troubled future for the status negotiations." Congressman Atalig Con-



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WILSON LETTER...

Con't from page 1

ning differences between the two men that arose out of a conversation at Saipan's Royal Taga Hotel Tuesday evening, December 18, a matter of public record. Miss Trent indicated Wilson had no desire to perpetuate any argument, but simply wishes to clarify differences of opinion which exist over what was said during the conversation.

The Wilson letter states: "My recollection of that conversation and yours, evidently diverge on a number of particulars, and I am distressed that you seem to have taken certain remarks personally. They were not so intended."

"On the subject of home-steads on Tinian, I believe I made the point that there were by our information 83 agricultural

on discussions on future status unless both sides agreed that membership in the family was the common goal. If anyone felt otherwise he had no business there and should get out--not of the islands, of course, but of the talks.

"If you understood these remarks otherwise, please accept my apologies. They were not meant personally. Clearly no one would ever want to suggest that you should leave your own island. It was at that point that I was summoned

away and so we had no opportunity to clarify matters.

"Perhaps our difficulty is one of communication and a need to be more sensitive to each other's sensibilities. Certainly we should be able to continue discussions such as these under calmer circumstances and I look forward to doing so at the earliest opportunity."

Wilson's letter concluded by wishing Congressman Atalig best wishes for the Christmas Season.

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