

# This Quarter's Worth

The standard map of the Trust Territory includes a little notch between the Marianas and Yap Districts where territorial boundaries detour to exclude the U.S. Territory of Guam from the area of the T.T. The detour is a pronounced one; it is there because of things which happened a long time ago which were beyond the control of residents of either Guam or the present Trust Territory. The political division of the two territories can only be considered an artificial one; nevertheless, it is a real division.

The relationship of Guam to the Trust Territory is discussed in a number of its aspects in most of the first half of this quarter's *Micronesian Reporter*. Guam's Governor, Carlos G. Camacho, talks about the status talks currently underway in the Marianas and what they mean for Guam. An editorial from Guam's *Pacific Daily News* examines alternatives for that territory's own future and how they might relate to the future of the much larger island and ocean area around Guam. Another article urges more coordinated efforts for cooperation between the two territorial neighbors. And a final article adds a pre-war historical perspective to the often strained relations between the Japanese northern Marianas and the American Territory of Guam.

## Flora and Fauna

For anyone who has ever wondered how to use that leftover giant clam, or what to add to crocodile meat to make a tasty stew, or how long to boil your

bat in preparing fruit bat soup, you're in luck. Hera Owen, who runs the Palau Museum on Koror, has published a new cookbook to answer those questions and many more in 49 pages of fascinating information about the flora and fauna of these islands of the Pacific and how they can be prepared for the human palate.

The book is entitled *Bat Soup*, and there really is a recipe for that delicacy (Mrs. Owen says that it is her husband's favorite) included in the "Other Recipes" section. But it must be counted among the more exotic prepared foods discussed in the book. By far the greater part of the volume tells about more common island staple foods such as the coconut, the breadfruit, several kinds of taro, and even more varieties of vegetable and fish dishes.

Excerpts from *Bat Soup* which we include in this quarter's *Reporter* are only a very small sampling of the total, delightful package. But in case you do find yourself with three bats in the refrigerator and six people for dinner you'll find just what you are looking for in the book's "title dish" on page 31. *Bon appetit!*

## A New Year

The way the government calculates time, this issue of the *Reporter* marks the first magazine of the new year—fiscal year 1974—which runs from July 1, 1973, to June 30, 1974. We don't date these magazines according to the fiscal year, but according to the calendar year. Explaining it all would just confuse everyone.

In any case, at the beginning of this "new year" we are adding a new name to the Editorial Staff credits on the inside front cover—that of Bonifacio Basilius, Assistant Chief of the Public Information Division, which prepares the magazine for publication. Bonifacio joined the division several months ago, and has played an increasing part in putting the *Reporter* together. We feel it's time he got some of the credit for that work.—J.M.

# Who's Who

...in this issue of the Reporter

**Patrick B. Mangar** of Yap is an Information Specialist with the Public Information Division at Headquarters. He writes this quarter of the possibility and the desirability of Guam and the Trust Territory becoming involved in more cooperative ventures as island neighbors.

**Dirk A. Ballendorf** works in Washington with ACTION, the Federal agency which coordinates U.S. volunteer services, including the Peace Corps with which he once served in Micronesia. Ballendorf has maintained a scholarly interest in Micronesia, and the results of his research have been published in previous editions of this journal.

**John Oakes** is Diving Officer and Marine Resources Coordinator for the Department of Resources and Development. This quarter he rather casually relates the true-life adventure in which he and several fellow divers participated during the summer in the underwater museum and munitions storehouse that is the Truk Lagoon.

**Hera Ware Owen** is Director of the Palau Museum, and a twenty-three year resident of Palau where her husband is Trust Territory Conservation Officer. Excerpts from her newly-published booklet of South Seas recipes are printed here with her permission.

**Charles M. Sicard** has worked in several areas of the Territory's economic development efforts in the nearly nine years in which he has been in Micronesia. But he says that none of his work has been so rewarding as watching the growth of the dozens of cooperatives and credit unions over the years. Sicard now serves as Co-ops and Credit Union Advisor at Headquarters. **Bermin Weilbacher** is from Kusaie, the island many claim could be the "garden" for all of Micronesia. His origins perhaps naturally led him into agriculture, and he is now the Chief of Agriculture for the Territory.

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# INTERVIEW:

Carlos G. Camacho

*The steps toward self-determination are often slow in coming, even for a people whose island has been a Territory of the United States of America since 1898. Thus, it was not until 1968 that the U.S. Congress passed legislation permitting the people of Guam to elect their own governor and lieutenant governor, after years of presidentially-appointed chief executives. The long wait for this small measure of additional self-determination made Guam's people particularly appreciative of having a voice in the selection of their governor. They entered into that election campaign, in 1970, with enthusiasm.*

*The man who became Guam's first elected governor, 48 year-old Carlos G. Camacho, is now approaching the end of his first term. Another campaign will begin next year. The past few years have seen remarkable growth and change on Guam, and Camacho has been at the center of much of it. The change in style, in emphasis, and in approach to government when Camacho was elected was substantial, even though he had also served as an appointed governor. Since 1970, Guam has only nominally been under the wing of the Department of Interior. Officials in Washington no longer dictate policy, or even have much to do with making it. The flow of power is no longer from a far away capital down to the people, but rather from the people upwards to the top positions in Guam's government. It has made a profound difference in Guam's politics, increasing the desire of the people for an even greater measure of self-government—the right to vote for President, greater local control over such things as immigration policy, perhaps eventual statehood. And as her neighboring islands in the Trust Territory discuss their political status with the U.S., Guam has also begun to look at her own future political status, even including discussions of possible independence.*

*How much is the rest of Micronesia affected by what happens on Guam? The answer is that Guam's role in this part of the Pacific, economically, educationally, and culturally, is dominant. The peoples of Guam and the Trust Territory are linked by many things, not the least of which is the blood relationship that exists between the Guamanians and the people of the northern Mariana Islands. There are substantial communities of Palauans, Trukese and other Micronesians on Guam. Thousands of Micronesians have attended schools on Guam, and several hundred are there now, not only obtaining an education but forming a large part of their outlook on America by what they see and experience there. Virtually all Trust Territory commerce, by sea and by air, goes through Guam. And Guam's function as a major base for U.S. military installations is crucial to the desire of the United States to utilize some of the islands that flank Guam for military purposes. Clearly, the people of Micronesia cannot ignore Guam, and vice-versa.*

*Governor Camacho, a dentist by training, is a native-born Guamanian—a Micronesian, in other words, although most people on Guam do not think of themselves as Micronesians. Educated in the U.S., he served in the American Army in Japan, served in the Territorial Legislature in the sixties, and was instrumental in the formation of the Republican Party on Guam. His first term in office has often been stormy as he has done political battle with the Democratic Guam Legislature, but by and large party politics does not appear to be as much of a factor on Guam as it would be in the average U.S. state.*

*The diminutive Camacho, who has recently taken to wearing sporty pin-striped shirts and wide, bright ties, and who has sprouted a bit of a moustache, was candid as he answered our questions during two separate interview sessions this summer.*

**REPORTER:** What do you feel was the real significance to the people of Guam in that first gubernatorial election in which you were the winner?

**CAMACHO:** I think the real significance is this. Way back as far as 1933, Guam was working toward more autonomy. We were aware of our lack of resources, and we did not then and still do not feel that we want independence from the United States, although we wanted to have more self-government. We asked to become American citizens in 1936, but it wasn't until 1950 that the Organic Act was enacted, granting us citizenship and establishing our Civil government. But we still didn't have the kind of self-government we wanted, because the Department of the Interior was still governing us and the President of the

United States continued to appoint the Governor whether we liked it or not. So the real significance of the 1970 gubernatorial election was that the United States finally acknowledged that Guam was mature, that the people of Guam were ready to govern themselves, that the internal structure of the government would be determined by the people of Guam through their votes.



The election I won was an important milestone in the political development of Guam. As I look at our Micronesian neighbors, I believe that rather than seek independence, it would be better at this stage in their development to affiliate themselves with a country that will be helpful to them. I do not say this to interfere with the desires of some Micronesians, but only as a reminder of the experience which Guam has had in achieving its present relationship with the United States. I have some reservations in the current attempts by the Micronesians to cooperate with a sovereign country, and yet insist that Micronesia must be sovereign itself, and at the same time asking for substantial financial support while limiting the giver what is due him.

**REPORTER:** Do you feel that the people of Guam now have self-determination?

**CAMACHO:** Yes, but on a limited scale. But we are working to achieve a full measure. If you reread the State of the Territory message I delivered in January, you will realize that Guam is far behind in this area. Where we are able to make laws to suit our purposes, the Organic Act is not the best tool for the people to exercise their right of self-determination. For example, we still have problems with immigration laws which were made for the mainland United States and not for a small Territory like Guam. We don't like the U.S. Labor Department determining who can or cannot come here to work. We don't like the fact that we have to abide with the Jones Act restrictions on foreign shipping. We don't like the application of Federal laws which were not really intended for the purposes and needs of this Territory. We're interested in self-determination to the extent that we want to be a part of the United States, but we want to be part of the decision-making process rather than having Washington telling us what is good for us.

**REPORTER:** Do you feel that the people of Guam should have this right to self-determination as you define it any more than, say, Alaska, or South Dakota or Rhode Island?

**CAMACHO:** I feel that one of the factors that should be considered here is the remoteness of the Territory from the U.S. mainland. As you know, Guam is the western-most Territory of the United States. Our needs are not necessarily the same as those of other areas of the United States. Let's take the labor situation, for instance. Why should the United States place limits on the importation of aliens into Guam? Aliens are sorely needed because we don't have adequate local manpower yet. I'm not saying that we're going to have to rely on alien labor for too long, but the need is here right now while we are developing our own labor force. It



takes a lot of training and retraining, a lot of education to get our people interested in various skills; our population is small compared to our expanding economy. This is just one area where I think that we should be given more flexibility in the laws that are applicable here.

**REPORTER:** How do you feel about Guam's position in relation to other Pacific areas such as the Philippines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, or other places? Do you feel that Guam is in an advantageous position or a disadvantageous one?

**CAMACHO:** Personally, I think that Guam has got more going for it, in view of its geographical location for trade or tourism. In economic development, Guam has great advantages, but we don't have the full potential of some of these places because of our lack of resources. But we have other natural advantages. For example, we're right in the center of the spokes, we're at the hub geographically among Japan, the Philippines, Korea, the Micronesian Islands, and even Australia to the south. If you look back to the times when Guam was a port of call for any navy you can think of that was plying the Pacific, you can see that Guam has been exposed to the rest of the world for a longer time than many of the other Pacific Islands. So geography has had a lot to do with Guam's importance in the past, and that is so even today. The current economic development which is going so fast is based mainly on tourism, and that has to do with our geographic

location in relation to other Pacific areas. Tourism is being developed as a primary industry, along with military spending, which is also a result of our strategic location, and light industry, which we would like to become more involved in. This would be a setup where we get the raw materials from other places and assemble products here, using the free port status as a major inducement.

**REPORTER:** Guam has developed very, very rapidly in the last ten years; some people even say too rapidly. How do you feel about that?

**CAMACHO:** The development *has* been quite fast; we are now faced with the problem of meeting the demands and needs of the people, and it all hinges on what the government can afford to spend. But we have made quite a lot of improvement and we have been meeting our obligations. What we've tried to do is to put Guam in a position where we can set certain priorities. Everything is done according to a system of program priorities, upon which the expenditure of our limited funds is based. Of course, we cannot afford to neglect something like education for the sake of water or power development, nor are we in a position to reduce or eliminate other vital services for the sake of one or another service. We make master plans and we meld it together in such a way that we are able to develop those areas which will give the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. As we progress and become more affluent, we can broaden our priorities and meet more of our needs.

**REPORTER:** You answered that question as a Chief Executive of the Government of Guam, from the standpoint of services and infrastructure, and so forth. Let me ask you about another aspect of that same question. What about the sociological and psychological impact on the people of Guam which has resulted from this rapid development? Do you think that there is some disorientation among Guamanians? For instance, are they losing control of their lands, or do they feel that they are losing control of their island?

**CAMACHO:** There is definitely a social impact. The people of Guam have been subjected to all kinds of changes in their culture, in economic development, in their religious philosophies. But this has been happening for some time, not just recently, and I would say that we have a tendency, as Guamanians, to "roll with the punches," to use that expression. If there's a catastrophe, we don't fall on our knees and beg; we rise to meet the challenge that has confronted us. Some of our people may have been too quick to sell their property, but the majority are now beginning to recognize the importance of holding their land and making it work for them. Rather than sell, our people are going into lease agreements, they're forming corporations, partnerships and the like. The people are beginning to know how to cope with the sudden changes—cultural, financial and social.

**REPORTER:** As the changes and adaptations come, do you feel that some of the unique aspects of the Guamanian culture are going to die out? What about the Chamorro language, or native dress, or fiesta celebrations?

**CAMACHO:** I am very much concerned that with our progress there is the possibility of losing our cultural identity. We are re-introducing cultural studies into the educational system and I am encouraging any and all efforts toward preserving our cultural heritage so that we don't lose our identity as has happened in some other areas.

**REPORTER:** Does the government make any effort to, for example, present important papers and documents in Chamorro as well as in English, or make any similar efforts to promote the retention of a knowledge of the language?

**CAMACHO:** English is the official language, but we are offering our children bilingual education programs in some schools so that they will have an opportunity to develop a knowledge of their native language while learning the regular subjects in the school system.

**REPORTER:** Is Chamorro still the language spoken in most Guamanian homes?

**CAMACHO:** In a majority, yes. But in many cases, just like in my case, I've got seven children and only three can speak the language. They can *understand* it, and while they may not speak it while they are youngsters, I've seen a tendency for young people to develop the language before they get into their early twenties. They pick it up from their friends, and from the family, you know. English is mostly spoken in our home, but my wife and I speak Chamorro; so there is an opportunity for the children to learn it. It would be unfortunate for the people to stop speaking Chamorro, and I believe that the educational system is one good way to preserve the language.

**REPORTER:** In addition to whatever influences on Guam and her people which the Americans might have brought, there is also a considerable influx of people from the Philippines, Korea, Taiwan and Japan into Guam. How do you feel this is affecting Guam's social fabric?

**CAMACHO:** There is not much of a change because as I said before, looking back at history we have had contacts with diverse groups of people for a long time. In books and writings dating back to the 1600's, there is reference to a Chinese being here, and there were Japanese and Mexicans and Filipinos. So you can see that we have experienced outside influences for a long time. Look

at our food, for instance. There is a conglomeration of influences from other countries. A fiesta has *kelaguen*, *sashimi* and local foods such as breadfruit, taro and fish and coconut. Even in our language, in Chamorro, there are English, German, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese and Filipino words.

**REPORTER:** There has been some concern expressed on Guam and elsewhere in the Pacific, notably in Hawaii, about the extent of Japanese investment in the islands. The Japanese have a lot of money and are becoming more aggressive in seeking out investment opportunities. Are you concerned about that here?

**CAMACHO:** At one time I *was* worried, but now I can see that our people are beginning to understand the Japanese. Previously, we welcomed them with open arms; today we say, "Hold it! What do you have in mind? If I'm not going to be involved in this, then you're out." The local people are beginning to take more part in this investment from outside and are sharing more in this development. In the past, it was a very difficult situation where, let's suppose, an outside investor comes in and plunks five million dollars in front of a man and says, "I need your property. Here's five million dollars." And then the man starts thinking, "Wow! Five million dollars! I can buy a house, I can go on a trip." And then he thinks: "I'm going to die anyhow, in maybe a few years, so why not take advantage of this. I'll just leave enough land for my children." So he saves a few parcels of land for each of his children, and that's it. He sells the rest and goes on a trip. That has changed!



**REPORTER:** Tell me briefly about Guam's relationship with the military, one of the other major factors here on Guam. Is the relationship a good one, productive for both sides?

**CAMACHO:** At the moment, yes, although there is growing resentment because the people have to look through the fences at all of those enclosed areas of the island which the military has. There is a growing feeling that the military shouldn't really have that much land. They own a third of the island. There is criticism, for example, about the Naval Air Station which is utilized about seventy-five percent by the civilians and only twenty-five percent by the military and the Defense Department still won't part with it. And, of course, NAS is in the middle of a growing community, and it has become something of a sore point that to get from Barrigada to Tamuning you have to go all the way around the Base instead of going right through. Basically though, the relationship is a good one. The military is still a good friend to Guam. But at the same time you never can tell what's going to happen because of the fact that with a rapid turnover you may have an Admiral now who is a terrific guy, and the next one may be something else.

**REPORTER:** As a political leader, do you ever feel dominated by the military?

**CAMACHO:** Not any more, not since I was elected Governor. Before, I was an employee of the Interior Department and I answered to them as a Federal employee. Now, I am an employee of the people of Guam and I answer to the people. I like it this way.

**REPORTER:** What are your dealings with the Interior Department?

**CAMACHO:** Oh, we have some business with them, but not as much as before. You know, that's what I mean by self-determination and the difference which the election made. There have been tremendous gains made politically. I have gone so far as to say that eventually Guam should perhaps

become a State of the Union. Whether we achieve that within coming years remains to be seen; but I strongly feel that every citizen of Guam should be participating as a full citizen of the United States by being allowed to vote for the President and Vice-President of the United States.

**REPORTER:** That's the next step?

**CAMACHO:** That's the next step, yes, and then we must make further determinations. I have called for a status commission to look into the needs of the island—where do we go from here politically, do we want to be a commonwealth? That's kind of an off-key word, as far as a lot of people in Washington are concerned. They've had quite an experience with Puerto Rico, and I don't think they like it. With the cooperation of the Legislature we will develop some new status that is acceptable to all the people of Guam. We are strongly committed to the United States, in some form of independent political association.

**REPORTER:** You mentioned independence. Could Guam be independent politically?

**CAMACHO:** It would be difficult, and I don't think that the people of Guam are considering it seriously. We have limited resources, we don't have anything with which to protect ourselves. Economic independence perhaps, but political independence, no.

**REPORTER:** I'd like to move now into an area which is uppermost in the minds of most Trust Territory citizens and which I also gather is becoming of more concern to the people of Guam at this point. That is the future political status of the islands of the Trust Territory around you. What is the Executive Branch of the Government of Guam doing in regard to the Trust Territory status issue as it relates to the future of Guam?

**CAMACHO:** Presently, we are maintaining close observation of the developments. We don't want to interfere in the negotiations involving Saipan and the northern Marianas. That



determination is theirs to make. However, I have made my position known, expressing the desire and belief that Guam and the northern Marianas should be one piece of political fabric. I'm talking now about the link between Guam and the northern Marianas that was only broken by a quirk of history. We all have so much in common, and we should be working in a mutual partnership for the benefit of all the people in these islands.

**REPORTER:** So reunification is the ultimate goal?

**CAMACHO:** I believe it would be correct to say that most of the people of Guam feel that this is the direction we should follow. Unfortunately back in the '60's, in the reunification referendum, voter support for such a move was not accurately measured. I attribute the failure to the inability of intelligent leadership to educate the people of Guam on the benefits and the desirability of reunification. The vote on the matter failed then, but it did not fail because the people didn't want reunification; it failed because the people were not adequately informed about the whole proposition. As an indication, the voting was very, very light. Now that the whole issue has been discussed, I suspect that if the vote were to be held today, the result would be different.

**REPORTER:** How did you react personally as a politician here on Guam to the recent status talks held in May on Saipan?

**CAMACHO:** I think they're doing a tremendous job. I have had the opportunity to talk with the leaders, even though Guam is not involved in the status talks themselves. Eventually, perhaps we'll talk about what we can do for a Guam reunited with the northern Marianas.

**REPORTER:** Do you feel that Guam should have been allowed in some way to participate in the talks, perhaps as an observer?

**CAMACHO:** Well, it was decided that we would not be directly involved, though at the time it was a matter of discussion involving all of Micronesia. So, of course, I didn't pursue the matter; but then the idea of separation came up and the northern Marianas went ahead and asked for separate talks. I talked to both Ambassador Williams and his Liaison Officer on Saipan and I decided to let the negotiators work out their problems, and eventually after some accord had been reached, we would become involved in the discussion.

**REPORTER:** Has the United States delegation kept you and other Guam leaders informed about the status talks and how they are progressing?

**CAMACHO:** Yes, to an extent.

**REPORTER:** Following the talks of May and June this year and the release of the joint communique, there was some discussion and some speculation in the newspapers that the people of the northern Marianas seem to be on their way to negotiating a status which is going to be better than Guam has. Do you think that may happen?

**CAMACHO:** They are in a better position than we were in 1950, because Guam was not given an opportunity to talk with the United States about political status. Guam has been under the United States flag for seventy-five years—since 1898—and the people of the Territory have never been given an opportunity such as that which the northern Marianas has now, or the whole of Micronesia for that matter. And, of course, this is a matter which

we should perhaps support in that it would enhance our own position here on Guam. We're happy that the northern Marianas and all of the people in the Trust Territory are now having that opportunity. But as far as Guam is concerned, we do not intend to sit idly by while Micronesia negotiates itself a political status better than ours. Our status review is underway and when Micronesia presents theirs, we will move to ensure that Guam is treated equally. Our long loyalty to the U.S. entitles us to nothing less.



**REPORTER:** In talking about the reunification question, how do you feel about what seems to be a change of heart among many northern Marianas leaders, in that they now are not so sure they want reunification for fear they may be dominated by Guam?

**CAMACHO:** I realize that there may be some of this feeling. As they look at Guam and our relatively advanced position, economically and socially speaking, the leaders of the Marianas may suspect that Guam is interested in Saipan for exploitation purposes. But we don't look at it that way. In my thinking, at least, I'm looking at the reunification of the northern Marianas and Guam on the basis of ethnic and cultural considerations, and on the premise that if we join together, then we can pool our resources and become more effective than being two separate governments.

**REPORTER:** Does it seem unrealistic to you for the United States to maintain two territorial governments so close together?

**CAMACHO:** That's part of the argument against separation. But I'm looking at it also in the economic sense. All of these islands are lacking in size and, therefore, in potential resources. Saipan doesn't have a labor force and neither does Guam or Rota or Tinian for that matter. My idea—and I have had occasion to talk to the leadership of the northern Marianas about it—is that it

will eventually be more to the benefit of all people concerned if we establish economic ties, whereby we can divide the resources and use them in such a way that Guam could be a financial and education center, Saipan could be possibly a tourist mecca, Tinian, Rota and the other places could be an agricultural base. And this could be extended so that if we were to encompass the whole Trust Territory, for instance, there would be a bread-basket, a fisheries area, and so on down the line, where we could pull all of these resources together as a kind of an economic common market to work to the advantage of everyone. This would be better than splitting everybody up in such a way that the resources are limited—we can't grow our own, but united I think it can be done. Two governments may be necessary for a short while as the

northern Marianas may need time to "catch up" economically, with Guam.

**REPORTER:** What was your reaction to the United States proposal to take over the island of Tinian for military purposes, which was a major part of the talks?

**CAMACHO:** Well, my reaction to that is definitely on the negative side. I am pleased that U.S. military forces are leaving Asia, but I don't think that the military should move from Guam to the northern Marianas. The military has been a dominant factor in Guam's economy for so long, and there is no question that we still need the military here. Diluting the size of the military on Guam and moving them somewhere else could have a considerable impact on Guam. Whether this will be the final result of the proposal to create another base area on Tinian remains to be seen. Secondly, I don't think that the military has gotten very far with its proposal to take the whole island and to start moving people away from their homes—it has not been a very popular decision on their part. If they can work it out somehow whereby they can concentrate their operations in one area without displacing the population, it might be more acceptable to the people of Tinian. But *what* they are planning, I really don't know. The military, of course, could just go in there with the present laws of eminent domain and extract what they want. It's possible to talk about rehabilitation and just compensation and so forth, but right now there is a very critical problem facing the people both on Guam and in the northern Marianas, and that is the value of the land in a culture where land becomes a *symbol* and money doesn't amount to anything. I think the average man would rather give Uncle Sam two thousand dollars as a donation than have the Federal Government go in there and say, "Move. I want your property for national defense." If it were during a time of war, that's another matter because the people realize that we have to cooperate to win

a war. But you're talking about peace time now.

**REPORTER:** You started out talking about Tinian, but I sense now that we are talking about Guam and the military land holdings here to some extent.

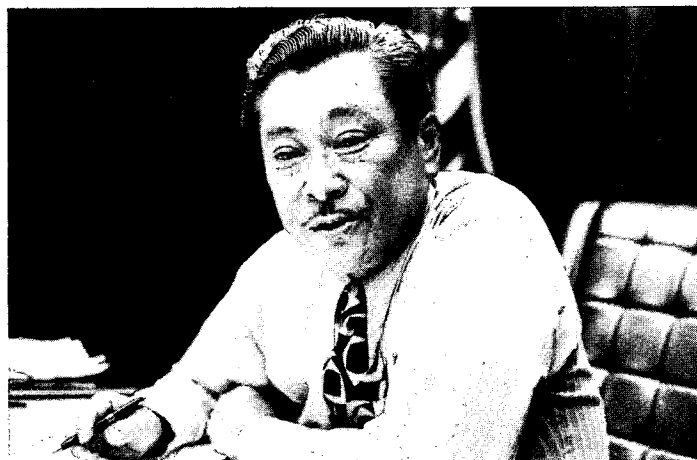
**CAMACHO:** Oh, yes, I am, definitely. As Governor of Guam I'm not too happy at the way the military is utilizing the property it is holding. They always say that they have "future plans," but I have heard that comment for ten and twenty years. We've asked the military to advise us about their plans so that we can coordinate them with *our* plans and have better cooperation and understanding as to how we utilize the island's land resources. People are beginning to feel very uncomfortable about the military because now, a long, long time after the Second World War, the Defense Department is still holding on to pieces of property which are not being used. Although we do accept the fact that the military has its mission, we maintain that there is a dual role that they must play—fulfilling that mission, *and* cooperating with and understanding the civilian community. Our relationship with the military has reached a point where we are "comfortable" with each other. But that doesn't necessarily mean that it's going to stay that way.

**REPORTER:** What do you see as the role of Guam in the next 25 years or so, until the year 2000?

**CAMACHO:** We are talking now about Guam being in a central area where it could be very influential in the world of international finance. Guam will have an important role both in trade and in the economic plans of other Pacific areas. But a major problem that exists right now is that we want a greater role in creating policies whereby we will not be shackled by regulations handed down from Washington. Rather we want to be able to seek our own role and our own identity so that we can cooperate with other nations of the Pacific basin. The idea of a common market in the Pacific could work to the advantage of all of us. There are a lot of banks on Guam now and international banks have shown some interest in coming here, and there has been some interest in some of the big insurance companies coming here with long-term mortgage money. So it appears to me that there is a possibility that Guam could become the economic or financial center of the Pacific. Right now I am working to explore this concept.

**REPORTER:** What is going to happen when Guam reaches its limits? Too many cars, too many tourists, not enough power or water.

**CAMACHO:** That is not about to happen while I am Governor and I'm working on planning concepts that will soon see intelligent, manageable growth guidelines made into law. We have moved ahead with unifying and



centralizing our planning efforts into what we are calling a "superplanning" concept. Right now we're reassessing the role of the Guam Economic Development Authority; we're talking about how far we want to go into tourism. We're more or less taking inventory at this point. We're not pulling in our horns, nor are we pulling in the reins. We are to the point now where we are planning five and ten years ahead of the present time. When I first became Governor there were no plans at all. I think that perhaps the major thing that we are very concerned with now is the possibility of Guam becoming *too* developed to the point that it becomes a concrete jungle. We're very, very interested in avoiding mistakes in our development. Once a year we hold an economic development seminar and bring in people from the outside who bring a different view of the situation and who can help us pinpoint areas of concern so that we can do things in a coordinated manner and not become lost in a shuffle of development.



**REPORTER:** Do you see any competition developing between Guam and Saipan in this respect, competition for tourists for example?

**CAMACHO:** Definitely. We agree that Saipan is emerging in this area. As they develop and plan and we develop and plan, I hope there will be a sense of cooperation so that one area doesn't harm the other simply by misguided forms of competition. I feel that Guam and the northern Marianas can exist together; and with the numbers of tourists coming to this area, there are enough for both areas. It is very possible that we could mutually develop a "round-the-islands" tour where you visit several islands. I think we jointly can work for the mutual benefit of everybody, not only in tourism, but in all areas.



# Pacific Daily News

A Gannett Newspaper

*During the month of September, representatives from seventeen territorial jurisdictions in the Pacific met on Guam for the Thirteenth Annual South Pacific Conference of the South Pacific Commission. While the conference was in progress, Guam's Pacific Daily News undertook an editorial examination of that island's place in the Pacific and its own future political status. An editorial from the paper by Joseph C. Murphy summarizes some of the issues in the Guam status debate and serves to amplify some of the comments of Governor Camacho in this quarter's Interview.*

## What's Guam's Political Future?

It seems especially appropriate, at a time when representatives from many islands, some of them independent, are on Guam, to discuss anew the political future of Guam itself. Elsewhere on this page is an opinion article by Senator Frank Lujan, Political Status Commission Chairman of the Twelfth Guam Legislature. The Commission was created in April of this year, "in recognition of the fact that Guam currently occupies a political no-man's land."

The Status Commission is charged with coming up with a report by next June, a target date that looks like "Mission Impossible" from this vantage point. However, work is underway. The history of Guam, from Chamorro times, to the Spanish regime, through the American administration is now being prepared. The Commission expects to touch off an island-wide program through the local news media to furnish the public with the essential information necessary. Sen. Lujan makes the point that "political status is, after all, a public issue to be decided by the people." He notes that in the long run "it will be the citizens of Guam themselves, who, ultimately, will decide what kind of world their own children will inherit."

The Commission hopes that the citizenry will take it upon themselves to become informed on the various possibilities, so that they will be able to contribute their views at public hearings which will be scheduled next summer. The unfortunate part of that is that next summer Guam will be in the midst of a full election, electing not only a new legislature, but a Governor and Lt. Governor as well. The truth of the matter is that the issue of the political status could become clouded and ensnared in the midst of party politics. Possibly, this could have merit, inasmuch as the potential candidates would be forced to speak out on their views on political future.

Everybody realizes that no immediate decision is going to be made. Everybody also realizes that while

the concept of political future rests with the people of Guam ultimately, there are other people involved. For instance, the people of the rest of the Marianas could conceivably be tied in with Guam's political future. And, too, the United States, and the U.S. Congress has to have some kind of voice in the ultimate decision, because legally, we still are under the U.S. flag.

What are the options that will face the people of Guam?

We think that these options are four, three of which could, or could not include the people of the rest of the Marianas.

1. Status Quo: Financially, this could be the best deal of them all. Economically speaking, there isn't much reason for Guam to think of any other status. In the first place, we've got the best of both worlds, with plentiful financial assistance from the U.S. in many programs, including highways, while all our tax money stays on Guam instead of being sent to Washington for distribution, and consumption. We don't have to worry about defense, foreign relations, postal services, or printing stamps, or money. We have a flag, are full fledged United States citizens, and are proud of it.

Yet, a territorial status is a nothing status. Sen. Lujan calls it "a political no-man's land," and says that we have the "status of a colony." Webster's Dictionary spells it out even more. "A territory", it says, "is a part of the U.S. having its own legislature but without the status of a state," and more, "it is a part of a country or empire that does not have the full status of a principal division."

Forget it. Although it is true that Guam has been moving ahead politically, considering that we received the right to elect our own governor only three years ago, and to elect a non-voting representative to Congress last year. We still lack the status of having genuine congressional representation, and of having a vote for the U.S. president.

We know of no place in the world that considers territorial status as being the end of the road, but only as a temporary status at best. While Guam should not move ahead without a good deal of thought, we feel that someday, perhaps five, perhaps ten years distant, Guam will have to move away from territorial status.

2. Statehood: It seems that Guam's natural progression, following in the footsteps of Hawaii, and Alaska is toward eventual statehood. Yet, when Guam's Organic Act was passed in 1950, Congressional leaders made it very plain that the Act was in no way a step towards eventual statehood, and in fact insisted quite the reverse. California newspapers, editorializing on the possibility, insisted that Guam was too small, too far away to be considered for statehood.

Many Guam leaders, as patriotic Americans, have naturally assumed that we were moving in the general direction of statehood. But we believe that the mood of the U.S. Congress, yes, even the majority of the people of the United States, would at this time reject the concept of Guam becoming the 51st state of the nation.

Feeling a little rejected at this, we believe that the people of Guam will turn to the last two alternatives.

3. Commonwealth: With our strong ties to the U.S., most of us would like to somehow remain close to our mother-country. It's possible that with the right proposal, similar, perhaps, to that of Puerto Rico, Guam could form a Commonwealth with the United States. Again, as with Statehood, it would be better from the standpoint of what Congress would accept, if all of the Marianas were included in the proposal. The Commonwealth could take various forms and shapes, with varying degrees of controls. Guam definitely needs to control immigration, however.

The U.S. might listen to any Guam proposal with interest, because it is plain that the U.S. needs Guam as much as Guam needs the U.S. The location of Guam in the Western Pacific makes this island of vital concern to the U.S. and thus, we have a good bargaining point in any negotiations.

4. Independence: Up until a few years ago this was a dirty word. Nobody mentioned it in public, much less in the public press. Somehow it was thought as being revolutionary, or un-American, or unloyal to even consider an alternative other than American. But that is changing.

Until just a few years ago there was no possibility that Guam would ever have the financial resources to consider going it alone. That is, until it was discovered

that the U.S. was paying Spain \$100 million a year to locate a couple of bases there. And until it was discovered that tourists found Guam a picturesque tropical island, and were willing to spend money to visit here. Now we've figured out that yes, indeed, it would be possible at some future date to be a truly self-sustaining island nation.

Independence could still mean ties to the U.S., where many thousands of Guamanians now live. It could mean that the "statesiders" living here now would be given a choice of either returning to the mainland to continue their U.S. citizenship, or staying here on Guam to accept a role in the proposed new nation of Guam. Again, independence would become a much more viable thing if it included all of the islands of the Marianas.

The point is that all of the various alternatives must be discussed openly and with frankness. Nobody should have to banter the idea of independence around only behind locked doors.

We feel that the U.S. Congress, because of their lack of understanding of the real value of Guam, may be driving Guam away from the arms of the United States, just as they have with the islands of the Trust Territory. "If," the people of Guam reason, "the United States doesn't want us as an integral part of their country, then we'll just have to look for some other alternative." In short, our noses are bent out of joint at the seeming lack of interest that the U.S. shows in the islands of the Pacific.

There just might be another, far-out alternative, not previously discussed in any of the public presses. That would be the inclusion of all of the "American" islands in the Western Pacific into some kind of super-state, super-commonwealth, or super-mini-country. But, if the U.S. hasn't been able to manage all these islands with any degree of success, it would be hard to imagine the islands getting together on such a proposal, and running themselves with efficiency.

At any rate, Guam, and the other Pacific islands face an exciting time ahead, as they begin to learn the various proposals and alternatives, and begin gathering information on them. We look forward to the public hearings, and the open discussion in the media of all the possibilities. We know that many of the other islands of the Pacific, most represented here on Guam today, are also beginning to see self-government in a new light.

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# Guam and the TT--

## Getting Together

by Patrick B. Mangar

Efforts to germinate the seeds of cooperation between Guam and the rest of Micronesia have always seemed to be shrouded in "benign neglect." Why? Because each of these territories has been pursuing its own course, paying little attention to the idea of cooperation between the two. As a base element of growth for the seeds of cooperation, as an idea to be promoted among the peoples who were separated long ago by international forces beyond their control, cooperation should start with that mutual friendship which embraces all areas of concern to both territories.

Such cooperation should not be a new concept to the people of Guam and the Trust Territory. Perhaps it's just lost its meaning in the face of increasing technology and sophistication, and the influx of changes brought about in the modern world.

For example, if one were to look at the backgrounds of many island peoples in this part of the Pacific, one would find that there are more similarities among them than there are differences. The people of Guam and the Trust Territory, as island peoples, thrive on the idea of cooperation within their own communities. Before any foreigner set foot on their shores, island peoples, in their idyllic village settings, always cooperated with each other—be it in setting up a cooperative farm, or in fishing or hunting together. They always shared food and the necessities of life; they looked to each other for help and for comfort. Within their own societies, the peoples of Guam and the Trust Territory still cherish that particular sense of dependence on each other, of helping and sharing.

It is perhaps more evident on an island that "no man is an island," and that everyone is a part of the group. That special sense of being closer to one's fellow man has always been a force of unity for island people.

Culturally it is evident that the people of Guam have more in common with their island neighbors to the north—Saipan, Tinian and Rota—than they do with the other islands around them. Nevertheless, people from the other areas of the Trust Territory live on Guam as representatives of other Micronesian cultures. In a sense, Guam has become a "melting pot" for Micronesians, and amalgamation of every culture in the larger Micronesian island group.

For these reasons—cultural assimilation and the island tradition of coming together for the common good—the idea of cooperation between Guam and the Trust Territory should take on a new meaning and a new impetus. If mutual cooperation between the two territories is to take a more definite shape, it should be fostered to transcend the national, political and cultural boundaries.

In the political area, there appears to be some chance that Guam and at least a part of the Trust Territory may get together. The negotiations involving the Marianas north of Guam are aimed at melding the northern Marianas into the American political family, a change in status from the present one which would only naturally affect Guam, since it is now has been for seventy-five years a member of that family.

One effort to bridge certain gaps between Pacific neighbors in the political area was the creation by Guam of the Pacific Conference of Legislators some years ago. At its inception, the conference solicited membership from the other islands of Micronesia. A few years ago, Saipan hosted the Conference's annual meeting. This occasion gave the legislators of both territories the opportunity to discuss topics of mutual interest, not only in the political area, but also in economic, educational, social and cultural development.

Just last year, the Conference ran into a financial crisis, and the organization's fate is not known at this time. But the Conference could have been an ideal political forum for maintaining a continuing dialogue

between Guam and the Trust Territory. As it is, contacts have been sporadic, and have been based on specific issues rather than being carried out on a continued and routine basis.

In economics, there has been limited discussion about forming a "common market" for the area to benefit both territories. But to date, nothing has materialized on the proposal which is very concrete.

Have efforts in the past to build a bridge of understanding and cooperation between the two territories all been in vain? Is there hope for the future to strive toward more mutually beneficial goals for the two territories? Is there a way to dispel this "aloofness" that seems to keep these two territories apart? The answers to these questions are not easy.

Speaker of the Congress of Micronesia House of Representatives Bethwel Henry looks at the issue from an optimistic view point. In a speech delivered on Guam earlier this year, the Speaker called for cooperation and mutual understanding between the two territories as changes come to the times in which we live.

"After all," he said, "we live in the same part of the same ocean, and, as we all know, in a world that is getting so much smaller. The great ocean swells which touch upon Guam's shores also roll upon the reefs and beaches of Micronesia. There are more similarities than differences between our peoples—our climate, our resources, and our goals."

Henry, an articulate spokesman for the Congress, continued: "In view of continuing technological advances and the pressures of modern international politics and economics, it is incumbent upon us to consider our own particular circumstances as island nations in a broader and less provincial light."

Discussing tourism, Henry said that a mutual exchange of ideas, experiences and information about the growing tourist industry would benefit both territories, adding that tourism generated by the Trust Territory as a destination area in the future will benefit Guam as well.

In the field of education, the Speaker said that Guam and the Trust Territory should study the advantages of mutually-funded and coordinated programs, especially in teacher training and nursing. In that latter area, it should be noted that already the graduates of the Trust Territory School of Nursing earn AA degrees from the University of Guam when they complete their study course on Saipan.

In the area of economic development, Henry suggested a joint effort in exploration and exploitation, especially in marine resources. Regarding agriculture, he pointed out that on Guam there is a known demand

for fruits and vegetables, and yet in the Trust Territory there are vast quantities of land that now sits idle, suggesting that closer coordination of production of agricultural products and a better system of marketing for these products would be extremely useful.

The Speaker noted that there is more and more interest in the development of land in Micronesia, adding that Guam and the Trust Territory should get together to study ways and means by which laws and regulations governing the use of land might be made to conform to permit the kind of development best suited for both territories. He said that since Guam is historically and geologically a part of Micronesia, increased investment in Micronesia by individuals and companies on Guam would certainly seem natural and right, and perhaps would be preferred over that by other interests far from our shores. And Henry added that Micronesians looked with interest at the development of the Bank of Guam, hoping to develop a similar banking system in Micronesia with a working relationship between the two.

And there were other things:

—The Speaker said it was ironic that Guam has to import foreign labor, when on her neighboring islands there is a great amount of unemployment, suggesting that a program be developed to train and use skilled Micronesians in the work force on Guam.

—Pollution and environmental preservation are other areas in which both territories should share equal concern.

—On status, Henry said, "While at present we may differ in the ultimate shape and direction, there is certainly a desire for all of us to work diligently toward some sort of final resolution of our respective political statuses so we can bring not only stability but also protection, development and self-satisfaction for our people."

According to a report in the *Pacific Daily News*, the Speaker's remarks were well received on Guam. Perhaps that is a good omen, auguring a move from an era of "benign neglect" to an era of benevolent cooperation.

But it takes more than mere words for the two territories to really get together—to join hands in these changing times. It takes effort and hard work. To get such an effort off to a good start, the leaders of both territories should fully endorse it and not just pay lip service to it. Speaker Henry's remarks could serve as a prelude to a new cooperative era, and to foster the growth of strong roots for the seeds of cooperation it's necessary for the highest echelons of leadership of both Guam and the Trust Territory to initiate positive moves in this direction.

Just to get the ball rolling, wouldn't it be a good idea for the Congress of Micronesia to extend an invitation to the Governor of Guam or the Speaker of the Guam Legislature to address the Congress in a joint session and express themselves on matters pertinent to mutual territorial interests? Such a move could not help but create a feeling of mutual respect and mutual understanding, and such a move could only have the effect of lowering the "coconut curtain" that stands between the two territories.

Of course, when we talk about cooperation between Guam and the Trust Territory, we cannot let pass those areas in which there has been cooperation in the past, or slight that progress which has been made so far. Just this past summer, a special program was designed at the University of Guam to acquaint participants in seminars with the social, political, economic, cultural and other developments in both areas. The seminars were arranged by Dr. William Vitarelli, a long-time Trust Territory employee now associated with the Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC) at the University of Guam.

And speaking of the University, there are several hundred Micronesian students studying not only there but at other campuses of public and private high schools and the Guam Technical School. In an ever increasing though unofficial way these students are contributing to the idea of cooperation just by their presence. Many of them stay with sponsoring families on Guam, participating directly or indirectly in community affairs and activities. The Student Sponsorship Program has received the enthusiastic support of the military and civilian communities on Guam and has enabled many Micronesian students to complete their secondary and college educations on Guam.

The opinions of the students on this cooperation idea vary. "I feel it's a good thing," said one student from Ponape. "When I came here (to Guam) I acquired a keener interest in and some insight into the social conditions on Guam and in Micronesia in general. And at the same time, I also received renewed appreciation of the cultures of both territories."

One student from Yap had different ideas, however. "I think each of us should do his own thing," she said, "because I think Guamanians are looking more to the U.S. and don't want to be with us Micronesians."

A second student from Ponape: "The contrasts and the similarities between Guam and the rest of Micronesia have led me to new appreciation of many things I had taken for granted. I think that cultural understanding is a stepping stone to mutual cooperation for Guam and the Trust Territory."

The University of Guam, where most of these students are in school, has played a major role, not only in training teachers, nurses and other leaders of Micronesia, but also in extending a number of projects and assistance programs into the Trust Territory. Perhaps most notable are the projects in the area of marine resources, especially the important starfish control program. There has also been a special study on prevention of shark attacks in Truk as well as the numerous reports on research which is essential to marine resources development in the Pacific.

Perhaps the most significant milestone with respect to working on mutual goals for the two territories has been the formation of the Pacific Islands Development Commission. The Governors of Guam, Hawaii, and American Samoa and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory formed the PIDC a few years ago to work toward joint promotion of marine resources and tourism programs for these four U.S. Pacific areas. It was an idea which was carried through to positive programs, probably because it had the full support of the four men at the top. It should serve as a significant example for joint efforts in other areas in the future.

Most people are aware of another area of Guam-TT joint involvement—the medical referral program for TT patients to go to Guam for medical treatment, and the Guam rescue coordination efforts which cover the Trust Territory.

The "official" link between the two territories is the Guam Liaison Office, now headed by Tom Perez, a citizen of Guam, who took over as acting LNO upon the retirement of Captain Gordon Findley. The Liaison Office is located in a rented office adjacent to Agana Cathedral and the bustling headquarters of the Government of Guam. The LNO serves not only a public relations function for the Trust Territory, but also serves to coordinate business and governmental operations relating to Guam and other points in the Pacific. It also provides services for TT students on Guam. Acting LNO Perez says that their relations with the Government of Guam have been most cordial, adding that Guam officials are very cooperative and sensitive to the needs of Micronesia.

The similarities in culture, the common backgrounds as island peoples living in the island cooperative manner, and the geographical "facts of life" that place Guam and the other islands of Micronesia in the same part of the same ocean—these all point toward untold benefits for both territories if a more coordinated program of cooperation at all levels could be implemented. Some good starts have been made; now is the time for more of the same.

FROM: COMDTNAVSTA GUAM  
TO : SECNAV  
SECRET I-100439

1012 AM IN RECEIPT OF A LETTER WHICH I DESIRE TO SEND REPLY TO BY SCHOONER SAILING TO SAIPAN ON SEPT. 16. THE LETTER, SIGNED BY PROFESSOR MATAGORO KURIMOTO, M.D., IN CHARGE OF GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AT SAIPAN, APPLIES FOR PERMISSION TO VISIT GUAM. HE STATES HE DESIRES TO STUDY AMERICAN METHODS IN COMBATING TROPICAL SICKNESS. I CAN SEE NO LOCAL OBJECTION, BUT REQUEST ADVICE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT I SHALL GIVE HIM DESIRED PERMISSION. MR. HORNOSTEL, AN AMERICAN WHO RESIDES HERE, HAS JUST RETURNED FROM SAIPAN AND ROTA ON A JAPANESE SCHOONER WHICH HE OFTEN DOES WITH A PERMIT FROM OUR STATE DEPARTMENT.

RECEIVED 9:47 AM 12 SEPTEMBER 1925

*There are lots of older folks living on Saipan, Tinian and Rota today who will remember the American, Hans Hornbostel, with an enlightened smile. But in the early 1920s, when he was a frequent visitor to the Marianas, he was regarded by the Micronesians as a great curiosity, and by the Japanese authorities with guarded suspicion. Fifty years ago an American face on Saipan would indeed bring such reactions, for Americans were not welcomed. What was Hans Hornbostel doing there then, and why had he come? It is a long and interesting story which begins with the outbreak of World War One.*

**The**

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# **Micronesian Reporter**

*by Dirk A. Ballendorf*