

**Editorial**

**Summer Work Program**

The annual legislative-administrative hassle over a program, and monies for our teenagers and their summer activities will probably be getting underway soon. It should be especially interesting this year, because it is an election year, and naturally, both branches of the government will be eager to give away as much money as they can.

For years GovGuam has allocated money for a summer program for those youngsters not in school, or without jobs. The only trouble is that a true program was never developed, so in years past the youths spent the first couple of days looking busy, and the rest of the time trying to keep out of sight. Last year, after a good deal of attention, the youngsters were given more constructive work, but it still wasn't completely satisfactory, and it did cost the Government several hundred thousands dollars.

One of the difficulties is that nobody gives any thought to the summer work program until budget time, and then invariably it develops into a major fight over whether the program is worthwhile or not.

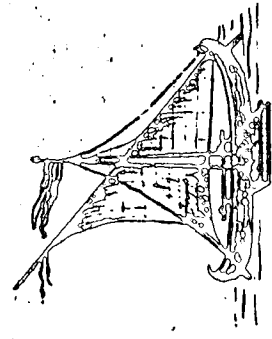
Now it seems, there could be a better answer. The Micronesian News Service reports that the Trust Territory may soon receive a special grant under the Department of Interior to carry out island conservation projects employing boys and girls 15 to 18 years old during June, July and August each year. A spokesman for the Division of Community Development in the T.T. said that the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972, passed by the U.S. Congress, allocates funds to the Trust Territory (and possibly Guam) to provide summer employment to youths, while at the same time improving public lands and water resources and also learning vital principles of island conservation.

An inter-agency Youth Conservation Corps coordinating team has been formed at T.T. headquarters in Saipan to put together a grant application to be submitted by February 1, 1974, for projects to be carried out initially in three districts starting next summer. The YCC coordinating team has set up the general guideline for a Trust Territory program so that it will fit the federal requirements and still workable in Micronesia.

The current plan calls for district level YCC committees to determine specific projects and what conservation concepts are most important for district enrollees to learn about. The production of educational materials for year round use in the schools and through the mass media are an additional vital goal in the Youth Conservation Corps program plan.

All persons or agencies interested in contributing their time, knowledge or other resources to this program are invited to participate by contacting the Headquarters Division of Community Development on Saipan within the next several weeks.

It sounds logical that Guam would be included under such a program, or if it isn't, then our Mr. Won Pat had best scream bloody murder. Yet, we haven't seen any announcements that persons or agencies interested in contributing their time, knowledge or other resources to this program have been invited to participate in formulating such a youth conservation program.



**A Policy Of Non-Cooperation**

By Senator Frank G. Lujan  
Chairman, Political Status Commission

Two years after the passage of the Organic Act, the civilian community of Guam faced an acute power crisis. By mid-1952 no less than 3,570 homes (75%), and 776 businesses (70%) were without electricity. The construction of new houses to be financed by FHA loans had been indefinitely delayed, and a steady increase in population had led to deteriorating sanitary and health conditions. Without adequate power, the growth of the civilian economy and its post-war recovery was effectively paralyzed.

Power allocations had been frozen by ComNavMar at the 1950 consumption level, under the terms of an Interior-Navy Agreement, which provided that the Navy had no obligation to increase power allocations to Guam over the 1950 level, although it could do so at its own discretion, subject to availability.

In May, 1952, Governor Carlton Skinner had forwarded a check for one million dollars to ComNavMar for the construction of a generator for civilian use. Rear Admiral E.W. Litch, however, had promptly returned the check, informing Skinner that physical limitations at Piti prohibited the installation of a fourth generator by the Government of Guam.

Although Litch insisted no surplus power was available to satisfy civilian demands, a Consultant from Ebasco Services, Inc. (a nationally renowned utility engineering company), had examined the power situation on Guam early in 1952, and had concluded that the generators were quite adequate to cope with civilian needs, plus normal growth. Litch nevertheless persisted in his refusal to increase power commitments to Guam. Thus only 2,000 kilowatts were allocated for civilian needs from a generating capacity of 22,000 kilowatts, despite the fact that civilians constituted over 50% of the island's total population.

At Skinner's request, the Acting Secretary of the Interior wrote to the Secretary of the Navy on July 21, 1952, - informing him that an Ebasco Services survey had determined existing generating

available in the future. Referring to the Navy's response to Interior, Skinner said that a single power producing agency might be in the public interest "if that agency had a clearly defined mission to plan for and extend power to the civilian population, but it is not economical or in the best interest to go without power or to run individual electric generators."

Two weeks later, Interior wrote again to the Navy expressing its requests that the Navy had not found it possible, on the basis of facts, to provide additional power, or to give a definite promise that power would be made available in the future. Echoing Skinner's words, Interior said the arrangement agreed upon for a single power producing agency on Guam was sound, but "only to the extent that the agency accepts fully the responsibility for producing the power required by all consumers."

On December 27, 1952, in response to yet another plea by Skinner for increased power allocations, Litch wrote: "At the present time the maximum allocation of power, compatible with existing generating equipment, operation policy and military requirements, has already been made to the Government of Guam. No additional allotment of power can be made for civilian use until the completion of the third unit at the Piti Steam Plant. This new generating equipment is not expected to be placed on the line until the latter part of 1954." Skinner thereupon notified Litch that the Government of Guam would proceed with plans to construct its own power plant. Litch in turn replied that in order to comply with the Interior/Navy agreement of 1950, the title of any new power plant constructed by the Government of Guam would have to be transferred to the Navy, so that operation and maintenance of the plant could be assumed by the Navy. Skinner swiftly denied that ownership of a new civilian diesel plant would have to be transferred to the Navy.

On February 20, 1953, Carlton Skinner resigned as Governor and was succeeded by Ford Q. Elvidge. A few days after Elvidge's arrival on Guam in April, 1953, Rear Admiral Litch notified

It sounds logical that Guam would be included under such a program, or if it isn't, then our Mr. Won Pat had best scream bloody murder. Yet, we haven't seen any announcements that persons or agencies interested in contributing their time, knowledge or other resources to this program have been invited to participate in formulating such a youth conservation program.

Some years back, during the depression years, with millions of unemployed young people around, the U.S. government formulated the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), in which thousands of young men went out to camps across the nation to build dams, plant trees, cut paths through recreational areas, and to help fight forest fires. It was, generally, a good program, although it might not be viable under today's materialistic attitudes. Still, it is our young people that have been turning towards nature, and towards conservation. It might be a good time to revive the CCC on a national level.

Or better still, it would be excellent if our environmentalists could get together with our educators, our legislative and administration people and form a Youth Conservation Corps coordinating team of our own to work out a summer program that would be beneficial to this island. If the planning was done now, we could conceivably have 500 to 1,000 youngsters available this summer for a massive tree planting program—along with cutting tangantangan at our potential overlooks, and working on beach projects. We think we have the manpower available, at least during the summer, to get Guam moving on conservation, but it takes both planning and money. It appears at least some of the money might be available from the federal government, if somebody remembers to ask for it. JCM.

## Squirreling Gasoline

It was just a tiny article, on page 10 of yesterday's Daily News, but it could have significant impact on Guam today. The article, datelined Harrisburg, Illinois, told about how four persons, three of them children under five, burned to death Sunday night when a full container of gasoline in the trunk of their car exploded in a two-car collision.

We're not blaming people for being a little panicky about gasoline shortages, when they see the long lines at the open gas stations, and the other stations that are closed. Gasoline, in this day and age, is vital to most families, necessary to get to work, or even to get to the market for food.

Yet, we do want to caution those who load up extra gasoline in every container possible, from glass bottles, to cement pails, storing them in the rear of their cars, or around their homes. Gasoline is highly volatile, and is extremely dangerous, especially around children. A collision, a chance spark, a match, and blooie, up goes the gasoline. What good does it do to hoard gasoline when it actually endangers you, and your family, and your house? Fear of running out of gasoline is serious enough (and may not even be valid), but our fear of gasoline scattered throughout vehicles, and homes is even worse, especially where children are concerned.

The story out of Harrisburg, Ill. is only the first. We'll see many other news stories like that in the months ahead, and sadly, given the present stocking up on gasoline, it won't be long before it happens right here. JCM.

despite the fact that civilians constituted over 50% of the island's total population.

At Skinner's request, the Acting Secretary of the Interior wrote to the Secretary of the Navy on July 21, 1952, - informing him that an Ebasco Services survey had determined existing generating facilities at Piti were adequate to handle all civilian demands for power. He requested that restrictions on civilian power allocations be removed. "The essential point of this request," wrote the Secretary, "is that the civilian community in Guam should be able to continue its normal growth and to enjoy the benefits of electrification in accordance with the intent of the joint Agreement."

Two months later, Skinner notified Interior that if the Secretary of the Navy had not replied to Interior's letter by October, the Government of Guam would be forced to purchase its own generating facilities. "I do not feel," wrote Skinner, "that my responsibility to the people of Guam will allow an indefinite waiting on the Navy's response. . . . If the economy is non-existent and so is the power needed by the people of Guam."

By the end of October, having received no reply from the Navy, Skinner advised Interior that civilian power allocations would be exhausted within thirty days, and that unless the Government of Guam immediately ordered its own generating plant the result would be "probable serious deprivation" to the civilian community for at least one year.

On November 7, 1952, the Secretary of the Navy finally replied to Interior's urgent request of July 21. He stated that all "reasonable" power demands could be met; that an increase in interruptible power could be granted once all military requirements had been satisfied, but that there could be no increase in firm power allocations. He said that following a complete survey of future military requirements and the installation of the Navy's third steam plant, civilian requests for firm power "could be considered." The Secretary also declared that a single integrated power system on Guam was in the public interest and would be more economical than if Guam were to purchase its own power facilities.

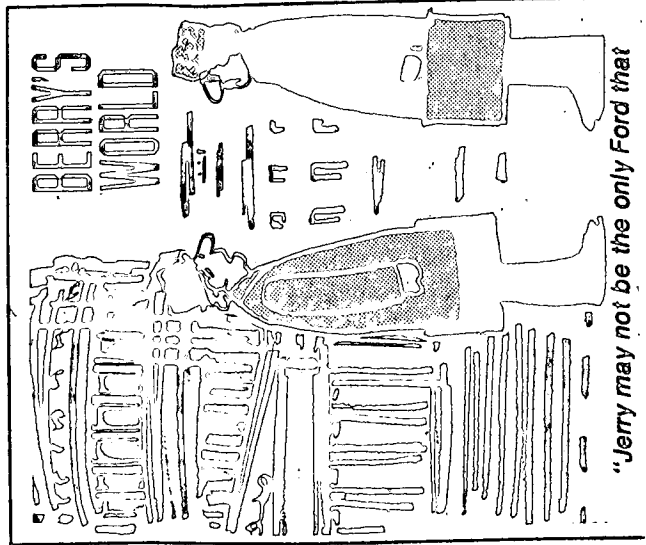
Two weeks later, as though encouraged by the Navy's letter to Interior, Navy Public Works Center informed Skinner that no increase in either firm or interruptible power could be allowed, and that no new power connections could be made without an accompanying request for disconnection. The following week, Skinner instructed Ebasco Services to proceed with plans for an independent power plant. He then advised Interior that plans were being pushed for the immediate construction of a civilian plant, since the Navy could provide neither additional power

despite the fact that civilians constituted over 50% of the island's total population.

On February 20, 1953, Carlton Skinner resigned as Governor and was succeeded by Ford Q. Elvidge. A few days after Elvidge's arrival on Guam in April, 1953, Rear Admiral Litch notified him that ComNavMar had been "authorized" to increase the firm power allocations to Guam by an additional 3,000 kilowatts!

Our records indicate that following the Navy's negative response to Interior's request for an increase in power allocations to Guam, Interior Secretary McKay had instructed Edward Earleky, Interior's Chief Engineer, to investigate Guam's energy needs and the capability of the Navy's power plants. This investigation had, show-as-did the Ebasco survey - that the Navy's generating capacity was more than sufficient to meet civilian needs. Once informed of the true situation, the Secretary of the Navy had directed ComNavMar to increase firm power allocations to Guam to more than double the 1950 level.

We conclude that Rear Admiral Litch had refused to increase Guam's power allocations -- not because the generators lacked the capacity to cope with both military and civilian demands, but quite simply because under the non-committal terms of the Interior-Navy Agreement, he did not have to. In short, ComNavMar, since 1950, had arbitrarily adopted a policy of stubborn non-cooperation with the new civil Government of Guam, as a result of which the people of Guam, who were still suffering from the ravages of World War II, were made to suffer yet two more years of deprivation and hardship.



"Jerry may not be the only Ford that