

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM

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HANDLING	CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED	MESSAGE REFERENCE NO. A-14
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TO: Department of State

INFO: USUN, COMTWELVE, CINCPAC

FROM: Status LNO - Saipan

DATE: October 25, 1974

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV GQ UN

SUBJECT: Guam Legislature Request for Dialogue with Committee of 24

REF:

PASS OMSN AND INTERIOR/DOIA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
COMTWELVE PASS AMB WILLIAMS

Enclosed for information is a copy of Resolution No. 326 passed by the Guam Legislature on October 23, 1974, which, it is understood, has also been reported through Navy channels. The resolution "concurrs in the report" of the U.N. Committee of 24 with respect to Guam (which it quotes). The resolution also asks the Department of State to permit representatives of the Committee of 24 to visit Guam to establish a dialogue with Guam concerning political status.

The resolution was obtained by the reporting officer during a trip to Guam on October 24; it is not the copy which is to be sent to the Secretary of State according to the terms of the resolution. The purpose of this airgram is to insure that the Department and USUN receive the text. Also enclosed is an editorial from the Pacific Daily News for October 24; the initials are those of Joe Murphy, the editor and a frequent commentator on developments in the northern Marianas and elsewhere in the Trust Territory.

Enclosures:

1. Resolution No. 326, Guam Legislature
2. Pacific Daily News Editorial 10/24/74

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It is understood that the resolution was introduced and passed in a most informal fashion, with normal legislative procedures by-passed or condensed. It is noteworthy that one of the sponsors of the resolution was Senator Paul Bordallo, brother of Ricky Bordallo, the Democratic candidate for Governor in the November 5 election, rather than Senator Frank Luhan, Chairman of the Guam Legislature's (comparatively inactive) Political Status Commission.

Joe Murphy's October 24 editorial (enclosure 2), apparently written before this resolution was passed, makes no mention of the Legislature's resolution and is critical of the Committee of 24 and its interest in Guam.

In a front page article on October 25, the Pacific Daily News states that Senator Hiram Fong, visiting Guam on the 24th, "was very concerned about the tone" of the resolution. "The resolution was adopted to divorce Guam from the biannual United Nations colonial committee tour of territories of the member nations. The resolution was interpreted by Fong to mean that Guam was soliciting a status of independence. Several members of the group, including Speaker F. T. Ramirez, assured Fong that the citizens of Guam and the legislators are 'very much American citizens' and vocalized their loyalty to the U.S," the PDN article says.

Comment: While the purpose of some of the resolution's supporters was to convince the Committee of 24 that Guam is content with its present form of government, it seems unlikely that the Committee of 24 would support Guam's present status.

BERGESSEN

023540

TWELFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE
1974 (SECOND) Regular Session

17

7,2

Adopted 10/23/74

Resolution No. 326

Introduced by Paul J. Bordallo
Ricardo G. Salas

RELATIVE TO CONCURRING IN THE REPORT OF
THE SPECIAL UNITED NATION COMMITTEE OF THE
24 ON THE STATUS OF GUAM AND TO PETITION
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO
PERMIT SAID COMMITTEE TO VISIT GUAM

WHEREAS, the Special Committee of 24 on the Situation with Regards to the Implementation of the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Their People issued its annual report with respect to Guam on July 17, 1974; and

WHEREAS, this report of the Special Committee reaffirms the inalienable rights of the people of Guam to self-determination and independence in conformity with the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples contained in the General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960; and

WHEREAS, the Special Committee makes the following specific comments with regards to Guam, i.e.,

"The Special Committee notes that 1974 will be an active and important year for Guam and the Guamanian people as far as the future political status of the Territory is concerned. It notes the new path followed by the administering power in undertaking talks with Guamanian officials to review the relationship of Guam to the United States Government and its programs. The Special Committee expresses hope that the administering Power will fulfill its obligation to make the people of the Territory aware of all the possible options concerning their future in conformity with General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV).

"With regard to economic conditions in the Territory, the Special Committee notes with satisfaction that progress has been achieved in many fields, and in particular in tourism. It also notes that the Guam Economic Development Authority has been amended to give priority to projects which would benefit local residents and that it will emphasize farming and fisheries development.

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"The Special Committee also takes into account the proposal of the administering Power that land controlled by the military but not required by it, should be transferred to the Government of Guam for use and development. It also notes with satisfaction the adoption by the United States House of Representatives of two bills concerning land, one of which would help Guam regain control of its submerged land and the other could result in the return to the Government of Guam thousands of acres of land being used by United States military forces.

"The Special Committee notes that the current work force in Guam is still unable to meet the demands of the labor market, particularly in skilled and semi-skilled positions. It expresses the hope that the training programs taking place in the Territory for such workers will help to solve the serious manpower shortage,"

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Twelfth Guam Legislature that it concurs with the Special Committee's report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twelfth Guam Legislature does petition the United States Department of State to take immediate steps to permit representatives of the Special Committee to visit Guam for the purpose of examining firsthand the Federal presence on Guam and in order to establish a dialogue with Guam concerning the issue of political status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Special Committee of the 24, Secretary of State, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Congressman Antonio B. Won Pat, and to the Governor of Guam.