

(CONGRESSMEN VISIT TINIAN)

SAIPAN, FEB. 4 (MNS)---SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA VISITED THE ISLAND OF TINIAN IN THE MARIANAS THIS PAST WEEKEND. THEY HEARD FROM A NUMBER OF RESIDENTS CONCERNING LOCAL PROBLEMS AND VIEWS ON FUTURE STATUS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND ALSO HEARD PLANS OF A TINIAN BUSINESS VENTURE THAT COULD MAKE THE TRUST TERRITORY SELF-SUFFICIENT IN DAIRY PRODUCTS.

THE CONGRESSMEN, LED BY SPEAKER BETHWEL HENRY AND PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA, WERE GREETED AT THE TINIAN AIRPORT BY A POLICE HONOR GUARD AND A DELEGATION OF THE ISLAND'S LEADERS. ALSO THERE TO GREET THEM WERE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WAVING SIGNS REFLECTING AN ANTI-MILITARY POSITION, ACCORDING TO MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVE FELIPE O. ATALIG, WHO REPRESENTS TINIAN IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THE CONGRESSMEN SAID OTHER SIGNS ASKED FOR MORE LAND FOR THE PEOPLE TO FARM AND HOMESTEAD, ASKED FOR A LIFTING OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MORATORIUM, AND SO FORTH.

THE CONGRESSMEN WERE GIVEN A TOUR OF THE ISLAND, AND WERE GUESTS AT A BEACH BARBECUE HOSTED BY MARIANAS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MDC), TINIAN'S LARGEST BUSINESS ENTERPRISE. MAYOR ANTONIO BORJA SPOKE AT THE BARBECUE, ASKING THE CONGRESS TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER OF THE ECONOMIC MORATORIUM AS THIS IS A MAJOR CONCERN OF HIS PEOPLE. BUSINESS KEN JONES OF MDC ALSO SPOKE, AND HE ALSO ASKED FOR THE HELP OF THE CONGRESS IN GETTING THE MORATORIUM LIFTED, SO THAT HE CAN PROCEED WITH PLANS TO ENLARGE HIS OPERATION ON TINIAN.

IN THAT REGARD, JONES INFORMED THE VISITING CONGRESSMEN THAT HIS COMPANY EXPECTS TO RECEIVE A SHIPMENT OF 700 DAIRY CATTLE FROM NEW ZEALAND IN MARCH. ACCORDING TO CONGRESSMAN

Tinian

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ATALIG, JONES STATED THAT IT IS THE PLAN OF HIS COMPANY TO PRODUCE SUFFICIENT FRESH MILK AND BUTTER ON TINIAN TO SATISFY DEMAND FOR THESE PRODUCTS IN THE ENTIRE TRUST TERRITORY.

MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO VISIT ROTA NEXT WEEKEND, AND A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE THE TRIP AT THE INVITATION OF ROTA MUNICIPAL LEADERS.

FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
Saipan, Mariana Islands

Program

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1974



ORGANIZATION AND COMMENCEMENT OF
THIRD REGULAR SESSION

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4.5

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FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

PROGRAM

MEMBERSHIP

JUAN LG. CABRERA	SAIPAN
JULIAN S. CALVO	ROTA
IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ	SAIPAN
FRANCISCO M. DIAZ	SAIPAN
JUAN C. DIAZ	SAIPAN
RICARDO R. DUENAS	SAIPAN
LORENZO I. GUERRERO	SAIPAN
SANTIAGO B. MAGOFNA	SAIPAN
HERMAN M. MANGLONA	TINIAN
MARCELINO M. MANGLONA	ROTA
JUAN I. METTAA	NORTHERN ISLANDS
DANIEL T. MUNA	SAIPAN
MANUEL D. MUNA	SAIPAN
FELIXBERTO M. OGO	ROTA
FELIPE A. SALAS	SAIPAN
VICENTE N. SANTOS	SAIPAN

Monday, February 4, 1974
10:00 a.m.

1. Election of Legislative Secretary Honorable Vicente N. Santos
President
2. Appointment of Parliamentarian, Honorable Vicente N. Santos
Committee Chairmen and Committee members

*****RECESS*****

3. Reconvene -- 6:00 p.m. Honorable Vicente N. Santos
President
4. Invocation Rev. Fr. Arnold Bendowske
5. Remarks Honorable Vicente N. Santos
President
6. State of the District Message Mr. Francisco C. Ada
District Administrator
Mariana Islands District



*The Fourth Mariana Islands District Legislature
requests the honour of your presence
at the opening of the Third Regular Session and for the
STATE OF THE DISTRICT MESSAGE BY THE
Honorable Francisco C. Ada
District Administrator, Marianas District
AND REMARKS BY THE
Honorable Vicente N. Santos
President, Mariana Islands District Legislature
Monday, February 4, 1974
6:00 P.M.
District Legislative Building
Susupe, Saipan, M.I.*

Semiformal

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Marianas

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STATE OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT MESSAGE

FOURTH MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BY

THE HONORABLE FRANCISCO C. ADA

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, MARIANA ISLANDS

February 4, 1974

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STATE OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT MESSAGE
FOURTH MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

BY
THE HONORABLE FRANCISCO C. ADA
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, MARIANA ISLANDS

Once again, it is a privilege to appear before this body to report on the state of the District affairs. This marks my sixth appearance before this body since assuming this office.

The year 1973 was an exciting year than those of years before. The tempo of progress continued to move faster than those years which preceded it.

Our records show that in the year 1973, a total of 45,209 visitors came to this District bringing a revenue of \$3,390,675 an increase of 71% to that of 1972. Five additional hotels are under construction and a few will be ready for occupancy within months. This will bring about additional accommodations for our potential tourist industry, additional services to our people and most importantly, additional employment and training opportunities for our people. It is estimated that between one to six months there will be over 300 additional employment and more

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will be available within a year.

Construction of Isley Airfield has begun and it is anticipated that the airfield will be operational by middle part of next year. At the same time, if the enabling legislation on duty free store now before the Congress of Micronesia is enacted and barring any unforeseeable obstacles we hope that a first class air terminal facilities will become operational, too. This project is vitally necessary in order for us to accommodate and attract our growing tourist industry. Other construction projects can be visibly seen, indicative of the steady growth and progress of our economy on the private sectors.

Our agricultural production has surpassed the productions of the preceeding year. Vegetables and other crops production totalled 1,500,000 lbs. for a cash increase of \$250,000. Beef and pork production was 200,000 lbs. valued at \$130,000 and eggs production was 65,000 dozens for cash value of \$81,000 bringing a total increase of agricultural production cash value to about half a million dollars. The District Agriculture Department has been very helpful in the success of this increased production in

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providing assistance and guidance to our farmers. Quite a number of our farmers have been active on a full-time scale. They need every assistance and encouragement. We can help reduce the import of crops which can be grown locally. There is no reason why we cannot reach a level of almost self-sufficiency in egg production. However, we are still far from that goal. We must strive to reach even half of our objective.

Recently, each of the municipality within our district has a chartered fishermen cooperative. We hope that these co-ops will succeed because we all know the potential of the sea surrounding us. As in other cases, there is a great demand for fresh fish both for home consumption as well as for food service businesses.

During the year 1973, a total of 61 EDLF loans amounting to \$551,682.65 were granted for various businesses. There were 35 farmers who received loans totalling \$160,730.00. Twenty-nine fishermen received loans amounting to \$140,740.00.

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Education continued to flourish and progress inspite of budgetary constraints.

We have succeeded in eliminating double session in most of our elementary

schools here on Saipan when a year ago it was not the case. Rota now

has a full 12 grades school system when a year ago it was only 11 grades

and we even doubted whether 12 grades could be added. Our dilapidated

school buses will soon be replaced with ten new ones, when a year ago

not even one could be budgetted for. Our teachers are continuing their

efforts to further their skills by attending various seminars and training

sessions including attending summer session offered by universities.

Furthermore, curriculum development and new methodologies are being

intensified to fit the needs of our children.

In the field of health, our efforts to bring health services close to our

community are being achieved by construction of three additional dis-

pensaries on Saipan. Inspite of many shortcomings, we are continuing

to intensify our health services to our people. Additional doctors have

been recruited. Training for our doctors, nurses and other medical

technicians are being intensified.

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Turning to the need of our youth a total of 200 boys from ages 9 to 12 participated in the Little League games. Their participation in Guam proved to be an outstanding success. We are now in the process of finalizing this year's little league program. This legislature's financial assistance to the program last year is most appreciated.

While we are in the area of recreational programs, most municipal districts on Saipan as well as Tinian and Rota have their own individual recreational facilities. Again, the legislature's financial assistance in appropriating funds to cover the matching funds for various grants-in-aid to municipalites is most appreciated. Grants-in-aid program has been a tremendous help to our municipalities in small community programs and including procurement of much needed equipment and trucks.

I will be remiss to leave the subject of community services without mentioning our family food distribution program which was instituted last year. A total of 2,816 persons in our district are recipients of monthly food distribution which has been most appreciated assistance to our elderly

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and needy persons. For this, we are most grateful to the United States

Department of Agriculture for making this program available to us.

Important events took place last year in the areas of political status,

a subject which has continued to gain momentum culminated by the

negotiations held last December. I believe must have been said and

published on this subject and the seemingly successful preliminary

general agreement on some of the subject areas covered. Much remain

to be negotiated and much remain to be agreed upon. In this regards,

we, at the executive branch are taking the necessary steps in preparing

materials to be used in our education for self-government program. I

call upon every member to assist us on this important co-operative

venture in educating and preparing our people about self-government

so that at the appointed time, our people are ready to make their

choices. It is incumbent upon us to properly advise our people.

No more healthier community than to have a debative and responsive

citizens. No time during the entire life and history of our island when

our people are honored this precious gift of selecting our political

aspirations than now. The choices are multiple. The choice we should

pick is not only affective to us but to our posterity. The tragedy

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of tomorrow will be when our children's children would curse the choice we made for them. History and our exposure to other events throughout the world should serve as our guiding lights.

The desirability of expeditious resolution may be understood, but expeditious action must not bargain the necessity of careful consideration of all alternatives for the sake of selecting a judicious conclusion. The building of a foundation of a new government will continue to focus our attention and such foundation must be built by good workmanship second to none. I need not delve into the fact that the challenges of the immediate years are great which call for dedication and foresight. Let us not lose sight of the lights at the end of the tunnel, but at the same time, let us not hastily reach the end of the tunnel, lest we may be liable to stumble in the darkness before we reach it.

The recent event of new policy regarding the permission of foreign investment will not only have an economic impact but social and political effects.

While the policy in itself will now clear the underbrushes of the past,

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it is incumbent upon us to monitor it so that appreciable gain is achieved and not a total control by outsiders. The lesson we learned by the mistakes of other areas must be our guiding lights, for an ancient philosopher once said that " an error can never be a mistake unless one refuses to correct it."

I believe that there are tremendous potentials here in the Marianas as well as the rest of Micronesia. The greenness of the islands, the pictorial beauty of our beaches, the friendliness and peacefulness of our people and all the virtues of restful accommodations are suggestive to our visitors. The wealth of the waters around us are not being explored while others have yet to be fully developed.

Another event of unprecedented nature was the policy statement of the United States Government for the return of public land to the Districts.

This is indeed a historical policy and it is my hope that we all join together and administer this wisely. I am confident that an impartial body can be created to equitably and judiciously administer this important mission.

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The growth in the private sectors is rather impressive and continues to progress. We are at the initial step of what conceivably be an economic surge. Promising new economic ventures are no longer mere speculations, but positive realities. We must put our concerted efforts in encouraging economic development.

We have made considerable achievements and strides in the year 1973.

Many could still have been accomplished but priorities must be differentiated.

It is still an agonizing experience for me in not resolving the water and power situation. Again, in this district as well as in other districts, everything is a priority. There are priorities in building additional classrooms, construction of dispensaries, and extension of ward spaces, hiring of additional doctors, nurses and teachers. The list of priorities are endless. But it takes money to accomplish these. The energy crisis which raised the prices of fuel to over 100% in the last five months caught us unprepared in that no one could have predicted that world tension would be as such that phenomenal increase in fuel prices could happen.

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The high prices of commodities and materials because of continued rise of price escalation are phenomenal which makes it more expensive to run the government.

I shall like to assure you that we are aware of all of those which need to be accomplished. The committee on appropriations of this legislature are aware of these as well as all of you when you review the District's annual budget and the five-year plan both for operation and capital improvement projects. I shall assure you that as additional funds become available other priorities shall be considered.

We, in the executive branch offer you our assistance in anyway we can help. We pledge to you our co-operation as we continue to work together to serve our people. We have endless works and problems unresolved ahead of us. To curse them and blame someone will not be a solution. We must face them and work out their solutions. Every year that passes we gain additional experience and foresight. Our job and mission are endless so long as we are in public service. We are in some fashion or another

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participants in a historical period of our life. Let us discharge our duties and obligations which have been bestowed upon us by our people. The journey to our ultimate future may be difficult but we must never stop. We must keep on going inspite of hardship and obstacles, until we reach the end of our journey.

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