



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
 OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
 MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT
 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

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CABLE ADDRESS
 DISTAD MARIANAS

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 3/24/74*

March 11, 1974

The Honorable Antonio S. Borja
 Mayor, Municipality of Tinian
 Tinian, Mariana Islands

Dear Mayor Borja:

I am returning herewith Tinian Municipal Ordinance No. 05-74, "An Ordinance to authorize a special election in the Municipality of Tinian on Sunday, April 7, 1974, for the purpose of conducting a special poll to permit voters to express their views and wishes on the issue of the extent of U.S. Military Occupancy on the island of Tinian and another." I have carefully reviewed the ordinance, but I found it necessary to disapprove for the following reasons.

While I can appreciate the expressed desire of the Council in according the people an opportunity to express their desires on such an important but yet highly sensitive and emotional issue, I found it rather inappropriate to take issue on what portion of Tinian be made available in the absence of any concrete proposal advanced by the U.S. Government's delegation on this issue at this time. The subject matter specifically with regards to Military requirements for land both on Tinian and Saipan are still at a negotiating stage and to take an issue on this will merely attempt to undermine the present negotiation. While it is true that there have been expressions of some kind of military requirements, specifically on Tinian, such requirements are extremely general in nature serving as a point of departure for purpose of negotiation. The various preliminary study groups for ecological reasons and military survey teams are merely preliminary works which are required should a definite move for military base is firmed up. The reason for such works being conducted at the present is because of the tremendous works needed to be done before actual military construction of any sort could begin.

Furthermore, at the inception of a separate negotiation status, Marianas has been negotiating collectively as a whole. As such, the benefits of the entire residents of the Marianas must be upheld at all times.

03-023031

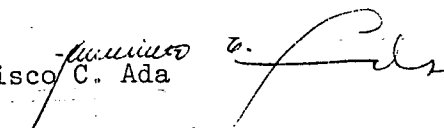
The Honorable Antonio S. Borja
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To permit one Municipality to even attempt to influence the negotiations will, in my opinion be the beginning of fragmentation that will lead to no appreciable conclusion in our collective efforts to achieve a political status. I do not mean that the interest of Tinian be not protected. To the contrary, I feel that by Marianas uniting together, the interest of the Tinian people may be best protected rather than the people of Tinian taking it upon themselves to decide otherwise. In other words, the interest of the people of Tinian must be mutually the interest of the rest of the Marianas.

It is my fervent opinion that to permit for a special poll of this nature will merely provide for a forum where sympathy and emotion will reign and the objective will be lost during the barrage of emotional campaigns affecting those in favor as well as to those who oppose. I can assure the people of Tinian that as soon as there is a concrete information on the extent of military requirement is known, the people will be fully informed. I can further assure the people of Tinian that when the opportunity presented itself, based on current and future developments of the numerous negotiating talks that may warrant a poll of this nature, I shall give it my utmost consideration.

I would hope that the disapproval of Tinian Municipal Ordinance No. 05-74 will not discourage the people of Tinian from forming their own opinions of land requirements for military purpose.

Sincerely,


Francisco C. Ada

cc: High Commissioner
Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs
Special Assistant for District Affairs
Distad Rep., Tinian
Attorney General
Director of Public Affairs, Hq.
Chairman, Marianas Political Status Commission
T.T. Status LNO ✓
Dist. Legislative Liaison Officer, Marianas

023032

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
TWELFTH TINIAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
TINIAN, MARIANA ISLANDS

Municipal Ordinance No. 05-74

Introduced by: The Committee of the Whole

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A SPECIAL ELECTION
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TINIAN ON SUNDAY APRIL
7, 1974, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A
SPECIAL POLL TO PERMIT VOTERS TO EXPRESS
THEIR VIEWS AND WISHES ON THE ISSUE OF THE
EXTENT OF U.S. MILITARY OCCUPANCY ON THE
ISLAND OF TINIAN AND ANOTHER.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TWELFTH TINIAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, THAT:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to ascertain the current wishes, attitudes, and desires of the inhabitants of the Municipality of Tinian relative to the extent of United States Military occupancy of the Island of Tinian; more specifically:

- (a) Their views on the relocation of the village of San Jose and,
- (b) The land area to be occupied by said United States Military, all in consonance with the basic rights outlined in Article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement for the former Japanese Mandated Islands, by holding a Special Poll

Section 2. Special Poll. There shall be held throughout the Municipality of Tinian, a Special Poll for the purpose of submitting to all the persons residing within the municipality and who are eligible to vote under the requirements of the Municipal Election Law, Certain questions to ascertain their views attitudes and preferences. Said Special Poll shall be held on Sunday April 7, 1974, and the District Administrator is requested to issue a proclamation calling such Special Poll for such date, to be held in accordance with the election laws of the Municipality of Tinian and the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 3. Special Poll Ballots. In said Special Poll, each eligible voter shall be given a special ballot, to be prepared and furnished the Election Commissioner, which shall be in the following form:

"(To vote, place a cross (x) or check mark (V) in the square of your choice - Vote for only one alternative)."

(1) Do you agree to the Relocation (moving) of the Village of San Jose from its present site to another area on the Island of Tinian.

NO

YES

(2) In your opinion, how much of the Island of Tinian in terms of land area should the U.S. Military be permitted to occupy.

NONE ONE THIRD (1/3)

TWO THIRDS (2/3) OTHER

Specify _____

Section 4. Results of Poll. The Special Poll authorized by this Ordinance shall be conducted in a manner similar to elections insofar as such provisions may be applicable. The results of such poll shall be certified to the Election Commissioner and to the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Section 5. Appropriation. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any unobligated surplus in the General Fund of the Municipality of Tinian the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) or as much thereof as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval by the Mayor, Municipality of Tinian, and the District Administrator, Mariana Islands District, or upon its becoming law without such approval. Passed and adopted this 14th day of February, 1974.

ATTESTED:

Alfonso S. Borja
Alfonso S. Borja
Legislative Clerk

Harry L. Cruz
Harry L. Cruz
Speaker

APPROVED THIS

27th

DAY OF

February

, 1974

Antonio S. Borja
Antonio S. Borja
Mayor

disapproved

~~APPROVED THIS~~

8th

DAY OF

March

, 1974

Francisco C. Ada
Francisco C. Ada
District Administrator
Mariana Islands