

ORIGIN ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# AIRGRAM

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DEPT PASS: INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OMSN  
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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SUBJECT : Northern Marianas ConCon Elections

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Elections for delegates to the Marianas Constitutional Convention (CONCON) were finally held on October 3. The bill creating the CONCON stipulated that the election be non-partisan and hence the ballot showed no party affiliations for the candidates, but the campaign itself was a highly partisan contest with the Territorial and Popular Parties each endorsing separate slates of candidates. On Saipan Territorial Party candidates won 14 seats, while the Popular Party won 11. The results are similar to the Saipan municipal elections of last June in which the territorials captured 13 of 15 seats where they had previously held no seats. With the elections for the Northern Mariana Islands Legislature coming up on November 2, also to be on an at-large basis, most observers expect the Territorials to continue their string of election victories. The legislature is currently controlled by the Popular Party.

On Rota, the Territorials won all eight seats and on Tinian the split was three Territorials and two Popular. Thus the full CONCON will consist of 25 delegates affiliated with the Territorial Party and 14 Affiliated with the Popular Party (Including one Territorial from the Northern Islands).

The final version of the CONCON bill called for at-large elections by municipality but stipulated that if at least three members of the Carolinian minority on Saipan were not elected, the Resident Commissioner would then be allowed to appoint up to three Carolinians to assure them at least minimal representation. However, the final results show that three Carolinians were elected so the Resident Commissioner will not be called on to appoint anyone. Provision for

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FOI EXEMPTIONS

FORM DS-323

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guaranteed Carolinian representation at the CONCON had stirred up great controversy between the Resident Commissioner and the Popular Party-dominated legislature during the passage of the bill creating the CONCON (reftels).

The actual campaigning focused on local political issues and personalities so there is little indication of what the details of the Constitution will be. Many candidates spoke of such unrelated matters as scholarship funding and increased public services while others were extravagant in their promises of how they would structure the future government. Several seemed unaware or ignored the fact that the main structure of the Constitution is already laid out in the Commonwealth Covenant and so the real options facing the delegates are already limited. By and large, the delegates selected were young and well educated with many being new-comers to elected office. Many of the old faces in Northern Marianas politics were defeated while others were elected by narrow margins.

The CONCON is scheduled to begin October 18 and will last for fifty days.

BENNETT

Enclosure:  
CON CON Election Winners

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## CON CON ELECTION WINNERS

1.	Larry I. Guerrero	-	2372	(T)
2.	Oscar C. Rasa	-	2354	(T)
3.	Juan P. Tenorio	-	2203	(T)
4.	David Q. Maratita	-	2191	(P)
5.	Carlos S. Camacho	-	2128	(P)
6.	Ramon G. Villagomez	-	2125	(P)
7.	Olympio T. Borja	-	2119	(P)
8.	Manuel A. Tenorio	-	2102	(T)
9.	Juan S. Demapan	-	2098	(T)
10.	Jesus G. Villagomez	-	2088	(P)
11.	Herman Q. Guerrero	-	2039	(P)
12.	Luis A. Benavente	-	2024	(T)
13.	Vicente T. Attao	-	2020	(T)
14.	Joe P. Mafnas	-	2012	(T)
15.	Joaquin S. Torres	-	2009	(T)
16.	Felix A. Ayuyu	-	2009	(P)
17.	Francisco T. Palacios	-	2001	(T)
18.	Joe S. Borja	-	1945	(P)
19.	Pedro L. Igitol	-	1936	(T)
20.	Benigno R. Fitlal	-	1920	(T)
21.	Magdalena C. Camacho	-	1921	(P)
22.	Felipe Q. Atalig	-	1901	(T)
23.	Antonio M. Camacho	-	1895	(P)
24.	Juan DLG. Demapan	-	1884	(P)
25.	Luis M. Limes	-	1859	(T)

### ROTA

1.	Benjamin Manglona	-	344	(T)
2.	Gregorio Calvo	-	312	(T)
3.	Prudencio Manglona	-	305	(T)
4.	Pedro Atalig	-	274	(T)
5.	David Atalig	-	265	(T)
6.	Pedro Dela Cruz	-	260	(T)
7.	Leon Taisacan	-	259	(T)
8.	Pedro Ogo	-	235	(T)

### TINIAN

1.	Vicente Manglona	-	265	(T)
2.	Hilario Diaz	-	251	(P)
3.	Stephen King	-	239	(T)
4.	Henry Hofschinfeder	-	219	(T)
5.	Jose R. Cruz	-	185	(P)

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