

Dear Editor:

After all that has been written and said, both positive and negative, about the product of the 3rd Con-Con, I believe that it is time I said my piece.

First, I would like to say that I consider it an honor to have represented my people of Tinian at the Con-Con. I believe collectively the delegation pursued common goals: (1) less government cost; (2) greater efficiency; and (3) equity for all CNMI residents. With this, we tackled many obstacles and leaped over many pitfalls. No one ever said it would be a bed of roses. In the end, 24 out of 27 delegates affixed their signatures in approval of the many proposed amendments, myself included.

However, now as the election draws nearer, more and more people have found it convenient to bash on what the 3rd Con-Con did. I certainly do not oppose freedom of speech, but I do question the intent of such misleading comments regarding our 3rd Con-Con.

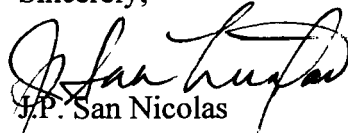
Second, I believe the members are doing a fine job at educating the public. They have met with people in EVERY village in the CNMI, both during working hours and in evening time. They have provided the general public with radio and TV advertisements, and they have met with leaders in our community. I believe they should be credited with doing a fine job for us all.

Third, I would like to respond to a comment that personally touched me. I must say that I was not hurt by the content, but by who said it. I am referring to the comments posed by Dr. Camacho wherein he stated that "they (the delegates) did it for their own interests rather than trying to protect the interests of the people." Now, I know Dr. Camacho personally; I respect him immensely simply because he is indeed a man who has struggled all his life to help serve our people of the Commonwealth. But, Mr. Editor, it pains me to see Dr. Camacho saying such a statement when I know deep inside he is wrong.

I, for one, have never forgotten about my constituents. In fact, along with about 13 other delegates, I fought to raise the required number of votes for amendments to appear on the ballot so that proposed amendments would not be railroaded through the Convention. All proposals were discussed at length in the committees and on the floor of the Convention. Again, not all of us got what we wanted, but through compromise and discussion, a consensus was usually met.

The bottom line, Mr. Editor, is that the delegates did care and were thinking about the interests of the people.

Sincerely,



J.P. San Nicolas

Delegate, Third Northern Marianas
Constitutional Convention