

TWELFTH SAIPAN LEGISLATURE AND THE SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON SAIPAN MISSION, FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE

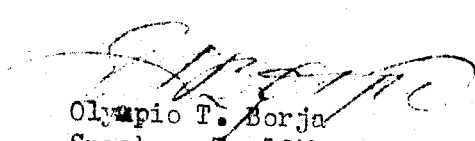
17 SEPTEMBER 1959

Mr. Geo. C. Eustaquio  
Conference Secretary  
Select Committee on Saipan Mission  
Fifth Guam Legislature

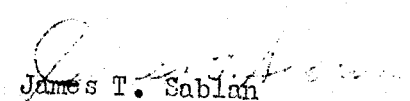
Dear Mr. Eustaquio:

This is to certify that the minutes on the conference of the  
Twelfth Saipan Legislature and the Select Committee on Saipan  
Mission, Fifth Guam Legislature, relative to the Unification of  
the Marianas has been approved, subject to correction.

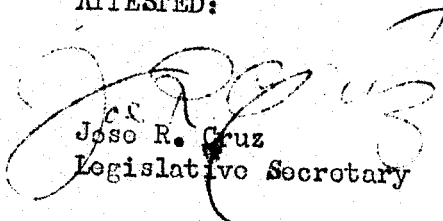
APPROVED:

  
Olympio T. Borja  
Speaker, Twelfth  
Saipan Legislature

APPROVED:

  
James T. Sablan  
Chairman, Select Committee  
on Saipan Mission  
Fifth Guam Legislature

ATTESTED:

  
Jose R. Cruz  
Legislative Secretary

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SAIPAN MISSION  
FIFTH GUAM LEGISLATURE  
SAIPAN, M.I.

September 17, 1959

MEMORANDUM:

To: Olympio T. Borja, Speaker  
Twelfth Saipan Legislature

James T. Sablan, Chairman  
Select Committee on Saipan Mission  
Fifth Guam Legislature

Subj: Minutes of the Conference on the Unification of the Marianas

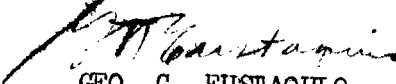
Attached herewith are copies of the minutes of the conference of the Twelfth Saipan Legislature and the Select Committee on Saipan Mission, Fifth Guam Legislature. This minutes has been translated by the undersigned from Chamorro to English.

Reference is made to the various Chamorro terminologies which have no counterpart in English. In all instances the nearest comparable English terminology is used. For example: the Chamorro term "honorable" cannot be translated as honorables since such term exist in the English language. Instead the undersigned uses the term "congressmen," "honorable gentlemen" or simply "gentlemen." In another instance, the term "honorable mossrs" was used. Please note also that the term congressmen and Legislators are used interchangeably throughout this minutes.

The undersigned would like to extend his appreciation to the following individuals who have devoted their time and efforts to make the transcription of this minutes possible within the short period allowed: The Honorable Jose R. Cruz, Legislative Secretary, Mr. Vicente R. Gogue, Legislative Translator, Mr. Jose Q. Guerrero, Legislative Recorder, Miss Virginia LG. Domapan, Miss Dolores S. Palacios, and Mrs. Isabel A. Bonavento.

The letter from the Naval Administrator to the Speaker of the House, and introduced as evidence by Congressman E. P. Sablan, is appended to this minutes as exhibit "A."

This minutes is submitted for your review and the approval of the house.

  
GEO. C. EUSTAQUIO  
Conference Secretary

TWELFTH SAIPAN LEGISLATURE  
1959 (TEN) SPECIAL SESSION

MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE SAIPAN LEGISLATURE AND  
THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SAIPAN MISSION, FIFTH GUAM LEGIS-  
LATURE, RELATIVE TO THE UNIFICATION OF THE MARIANAS ISLANDS  
(Translated from Chamorro to English by Geo. C. Eustaquio).

Friday, September 11, 1959

At about 1:15 p.m., the Honorable Olympio T. Borja, Speaker  
Twelfth Saipan Legislature, called the conference to order.

O.T. BORJA: The Special Conference-Session of the Twelfth Saipan  
Legislature, and the Select Committee on Saipan Mission  
of the Fifth Guam Legislature will now commence their  
discussion on the proposed Unification of the  
Marianas Islands.

I will now ask Father Arnold to give us the invocation -  
Fr. Arnold.

(A brief prayer was given by Fr. Arnold followed by  
the National Anthem and the United Nations song given  
by the Saipan Intermediate Students and the Mt. Carmel  
High School Students).

O.T. BORJA: Thank you verymuch students for your participation  
and the wonderful songs. I will now introduce to you  
our Mayor, the Honorable Ignacio V. Benavente who  
will give you a short welcoming remarks - Mayor  
Benavente.

MAYOR: Commander Mortense, Honorable Congressmen from Guam,  
ladies and gentlemen: It is with pleasure that I, on  
behalf of the people of Saipan, extend cordial welcome  
to the guests of the Saipan Legislature. It is with  
sincere appreciation that you responded to that  
invitation to come here to discuss the matter being  
intended and proposed-the unification of the Marianas.  
It is my sincere desire that this meeting will result  
in mutual understanding. You came with all due good  
intention the welfare of this Islands; hence, if your  
mission is not acceptable to some of our congressmen,  
I hope, nevertheless, that your visit to this Island  
will be of great pleasure and memorable to you.

O.T. BORJA: Thank you Mr. Mayor. At this moment, I would like  
to introduce the official observers, but before I  
commence, I would like to inform you that this  
Legislature invited the Governor of Guam and Admiral  
Erdmann to be present in this conference as observers.

A reply was received from Admiral Erdmann in Guam  
advising Olympio T. Borja, Speaker, Twelfth Saipan  
Legislature, that due to the arrival of official  
visitors on Guam, he sincerely regret that he is  
unable to attend the meeting scheduled for September  
11th through the 14th.

The Governor of Guam did not acknowledge our  
invitation.

O BORJA Continued: Now I will take this privilege in introducing to you our Governor, Cdr. Mortensen (applause), the Honorable Ignacio Benavente, our Mayor (applause). Ladies and gentlemen, I am not in the position to remember the names of the Honorable Gentlemen from Guam who just arrived here this morning, so I will now introduce you to their Chairman - the Honorable James T. Sablan who will introduce the members and then return the floor to me.

JAMES SABLAN (GL): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Benavente, Mayor of Saipan, Cdr. Mortensen, Governor of Saipan, members of the Saipan Legislature, Father Arnold, and people of Saipan, I will speak to you in the vernacular because every body will understand it. But first I would like to thank you for the invitation which you extended to us, thus, enabling us to speak to you of the subject called the "Marianas Unification". I would also like to extend our thanks to your governor, Mayor, and members of the Saipan Legislature for the welcoming reception that was given to us. We appreciate very much that gesture because it indicates to us how much you appreciate our presence here in Saipan, and we hope that we could come to an understanding on the subject of which we are about to discuss. Please feel free and don't hesitate to ask questions even if it is for or against Unification.

Now I would like to introduce the members of this Committee: Mr. Juan San Miguel, Mr. Thomas C. Ooka, Mr. Okiyama is not here with us, but he will come if air transportation is available. I would like to ask your forgiveness, and wish that you will excuse the other members who did not come due to lack of transportation accommodations. All of them want to come, but they are unable to. However, they asked me to inform you that they, too, are 100 per cent for reintegration. With us here is Mr. George Eustaquio who is the secretary of our committee. He is the Public Relations and Information Officer of the Guam Legislature Mr. George Eustaquio.

O. BORJA: Now I would like to introduce to you the members of the Saipan Legislature: the honorable messrs. Manuel T. Sablan, Jose R. Cruz, Elias P. Sablan, Juan B. Blanco, William S. Reyes, Antonio S. Palacios, Francisco T. Palacios, Manuel F. Aldan, Vicente D. Sablan, Benusto R. Kaipat, Gabriel F. Borja, Francisco S. Pangelinan, Felipe Ruak, and Antonio A. Diaz.

I will now introduce to you our District Commissioners: messrs. Mariano Aquino, Jose Magofna, Tomas Sablan, Joaquin Guerrero, Isidro S. Tudela, and Gregorio Camacho.

We will recess until 2 p.m. when we will again resume this discussion, unless the legislators from Guam would like to address the audience.

SAN MIGUEL (GL): Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: The Honorable San Miguel of the Guam Legislature is recognize.

SAN MIGUEL (GL): Mr. Speaker, members of the Saipan Legislature, Governor of Saipan, Mayor of Saipan, Reverend Fathers, and my brothers people of Saipan. When I stepped on the soil of Saipan, I was really pleased because it reminded me of a time when the Marianas was only one. We have only one language, one belief, and one common objective in life. We are very pleased and appreciative of the invitation which your Legislature has extended to us, and we also appreciate the warm welcome we received as we stepped the soil of Saipan. The last portion of the song which the students sang about life, liberty, and freedom---those 3 principles are the foundation upon which our form of government was established. That is to say, our fatherland the United States of America. Our Lord, Jesus Christ will not abandoned the United States because it was founded on that principle of government called, by the people, of the people, and for the people. That is the government which is call democracy. There will never be a time when this form of government will collapse, or ever be destroyed, because they believe, that precious faith, in Our Jesus Christ. Now, therefore, the people of the Marianas, you people here in Saipan, and we of Guam, should be united under the same form of government (applause).

OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: The Chair recognizes Mr. Ooka.

OOKA (GL): Honorable Gentlemen, ladies and gentlemen. I will speak in Chamorro because the majority of you will understand me better. Even myself who was born under the American Flag sometimes the English language hits me below the belt. And I do not want the people of Saipan to get the impression that we are here to insult them. But I'm sure it will not happened because we are now speaking chamorro and we can understand each other. Only a few hours ago, since our arrival here, we have already received many attention and warm welcome, and I wish to thank you all from the very bottom of my heart. Please be assured that the people of Guam will know that we have been accorded a very warm welcome.

We are not here to insult anybody or to force any one to follow anything that is contrary to his ideas or conviction. We are here because of the noble intention to unite the people of the Marianas. We are here to hear your questions, and to find out whether you are still loyal to the belief to unify the Marianas. Your power here is limited, but the power is in the will of the majority here in Saipan. We want to help you, that is, if you are really faithful to the idea of unifying with Guam, and we will help in anyway we can in order to make the realization of your desire possible. Not all those who are educated are wise, but those who are blessed with good common sense. There are many people here who have good education and good common sense. We do not want you to get the erroneous impression that it is only the people of Guam who want unification, but it would be very nice if we could be unified. I don't want you to think that once we are unified, the people of Guam will migrate into Saipan in order to rob the local people.

OOKA continued - This is not our form of government. It is not a democratic form of government. The United States as well as other people which, Mr. San Miguel spoke of as the government of the people, by the people, for the people. That's why the people elected their representatives so that the people themselves will make their own laws and government. As a citizen of the United States, I have the right to vote in America. Let us get our ideas together so that we can base our future actions from the unified standpoint.

Don't think for one second that the people of Guam have no problems. We have been enjoying civil government for several years, but we still have many and varied problems yet to solve. I don't want you to think also once the Marianas are united that all we have to do is to sit back and enjoy the benefit accruing therefrom. This is not the case, privilege and rights implies responsibilities. The two ideas are co-relative. And it is not likely that this matter will materialize tomorrow or next week. This matter takes time. Any movement, ideas or objectives take time before the same can be realized or come to fruition. But it is a good idea that we should start this movement now so that we can enjoy the benefits of unification within the not too distant future. We will no doubt have to sacrifice ourselves to this idea, but this is alright since we are working for the benefit of our posterity who we hope will reap the fruits of self-determination.

We are here to listen to you and not for us to tell you what to do. Personally, I like the idea. Because if we group together a bunch of sticks we cannot break them, but individually they could be broken. ("Shall we hang together or hang separately.") I don't want you to fear that once we are united the people of Guam will dominate you. Because all movements or legislation must be supported by the people and will result in the good of the common-weal. Under the democratic system of government it is the people who determines who their representatives shall be, and the representative would not do anything contrary to the public welfare for fear that they would repudiate at the next election. This is the guarantee of a democratic government. That's why this system of government is not frightful. Therefore, you should develop your interest in your government, and observe closely it's doings. Don't forget it is the majority that rules.

Our purpose is to unite and we have had already an incident in hand on which this motive or idea have been achieved. The case in point is the time, The daylight-saving time in Guam which has been enacted recently by our Legislature is being followed by Saipan also.

This is sameness in time, but, in itself, and indication of unison or unification. At least in having one common standard---Our measure of motion or time(applause).

O. BORJA: It is now 1:15 p.m. and we will now recess until 2:05 p. m.

O. BORJA: It is 2:05 and now we will resume our meeting. The privilege is with the Saipan Legislature.

Is there any one who wish to take the floor?

ELIAS SABLAN: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Elias Sablan is recognized.

ELIAS SABLAN: Mr. Speaker, and gentlemen -- I would like to ask several questions on Resolution 367, relative to the integration of the Marianas Islands. I have 16 questions to ask. It is important that we understand each other because the responsibility rest with us. As we are the representatives of the people. The public should be foremost in our minds.

When I read Resolution No. 367 from begining to the end, I came across such words as Chamorro race, kinsmen, all the Guam race, all the Chamorros. The fact is that there are citizens of the Trust Territory and even here in this Congress, we have someone who is not a Chamorro.

It is true that the Chamorro race in Saipan is the majority. There is also the other group - THE CAROLINIANS which constitute 20 to 21 percent of the population. Some of them holds responsible positions, some are businessmen, medical practitioners, teachers, school principals, nurses, members of the Insular Constabulary, etc.

I feel that we should not not see the reintegration of the Marianas because it would also affect the small minority. One thing that we could recognize and respect the minority group. Don't you think we should use such term as Saipanese or other terms in general?

OOKA (GL): Mr. Elias Sablan is that a question?

O. BORJA: Have you finish<sup>ed</sup> Mr. Sablan?

ELIAS SABLAN: Yes.

JAMES SABLAN (GL): I like to answer that because some of you know that James T. Sablan is my name, and I was the sponsor of this Resolution. By looking at me you can see that I could pass or considered a Palauan.

In Guam I know that some people do not like to be called Chamorros. The first paragraph says indigenous inhabitants. As you know during the Spanish occupation the Marianas, was inhabited by only one race, the Chamorro.

Now if you don't like the name Chamorros we can easily change the term to "people of the Marianas". I have a resolution here which uses that term.

James Sablan continued- We have a member in the Fifth Guam Legislature whose parents are Filipinos. Yet he is not offended by this. There are also half-breed Americans and half-breed German in Guam who are not offended by this term. They consider themselves Chamorros.

The people in Guam are Guamanians just like the people of Saipan and Rota are Saipanese and Rotanese respectfully. Perhaps if we unite we will all be Americans and not Chamorros.

Now that is relatively unimportant or trivial which can be easily removed if that is the obstacle to our union.

I think there are more Carolinians in Tamuning (Guam) than there are here in Saipan. They are holding important positions. But they do not make an issue out of that. Now religiously - we can say - that Catholicism is the religion of the Marianas. Yet, I am a Baptist, and I am not offended because of that. Just as Mr. Palting, who is pure Filipino, is not insulted by being considered a Chamorro. From my own observation here I can see that the Saipanese are closer to being Chamorro than the people of Guam. Now I recommend that we change the name, as a matter of fact, I have prepared a resolution here to that effect.

Perhaps some of you might be hesitant or embarrassed because of the wartime incidents. You can forget about that. Our Mission is to pave the way, and we are helpless unless you people want unification. Now you have to want this.

A Congressional Investigating Committee will be coming here and this matter will be brought to their attention. I hope that your position would not be different from ours. We don't want this to "boomerang".

ELIAS SABLAN: Perhaps you don't want us to accept all conditions at face value. Perhaps it is good that we ask questions so that we can understand each other. Because I think that if we understand and accept one thing it would be good.

JAMES SABLAN (GL): It would be undemocratic if we do not respect the minority's opinion, but at the same time the will of the majority prevails. Mr. Ooka (GL) will elaborate further on this.

OOKA (GL): It is very democratic indeed that you should ask questions and we will attempt to answer them. The intent of Resolution 367 is in the heading and I quote "Relative to requesting the Congress of the U.S. to cause the political reintegration of the Islands of the Northern Marianas within the governmental framework of the Territory of Guam". That is the Purpose and intent of this Resolution. It calls for the unification of the Northern Marianas and it does not mean that those people who are Chamorros will be excluded.



OOKA (GL) continued: Even in our own legislature, we have a member who is pure Chamorro. Many of you know Mr. Al Ching. He was voted by the people of Guam to be a member of our legislature, and whether I like it or not he sits as a lawmaker. This is the system of our democratic government. Yet no one can make him a Chamorro. Thus, as you can see, the term Chamorro does not affect negatively the intent of the resolution.

Now it is your wish that we should change this term, we will do so. But please let us not fight. There are only four of us here and you are many here. (laughter and applause)

ELIAS SABLAN: The second question on the resolution is on line ten, page 4. It says there that the Guam Legislature has "from time to time received letters" requesting or expressing the desire to unify the people of the Marianas. How many letters or communications have been received? I am not talking about now. I am referring to the time when the resolution was adopted in 1958.

JAMES T. SABLAN (GL): Are you through?

ELIAS SABLAN (SL): Yes.

JAMES T. SABLAN (GL): There are people who came to Guam like Mr. Diaz and Elias Sablan who said that they are not opposed to reintegration. Other people also favor the idea of unifying the Marianas.

Now I have here with me a copy of a news which says "Lets just have one Marianas" - the time has come when the people of Saipan should unify with her sister islands. I also received a copy of a Saipan Journal, published and edited by Congressman Jose R. Cruz dated 1957 which date was prior to the adoption of Resolution 367.

I also have a letter here from your Mayor Ignacio V. Benavente, and another Congressman Jose R. Cruz. There are others also. I have here also a Saipan Legislative Committee Report on Marianas Unification that reflects that 63.8 per cent of the people of Saipan favors reintegration. That strengthened our position, but if you feel that this is not enough, it is up to you. But even if only one letter was received if it represents the opinion of the many - it is still meaningful and it still carries a lot of weight. That is all I can say on that.

E. SABLAN: Thank you and I will continue. On line eleven, page 4. It says "since after less than 15 years of only the most redimentary type of American government". Can you people explain what rudimentary means? Because both Guam and Saipan do not have a complete self-government. Saipan, however, elects its own Mayor. I have a letter here which states, "that the United States government does not officially support the subject matter being discussed". I will now introduce this for the record.

J. SABLAN (GL): Do you want me to answer that?

E. SABLAN: Yes.

J. SABLAN (GL): In Guam we do not elect any Mayor, however, the Chief Commissioner which is comparable to your Mayor is an appointive position. The district commissioners are elected by the people in their respective villagers.

The expenditures of money is in the hands of the Guam Legislature. And many more legislative power which indicate that the people are limitedly self-determined. Here in Saipan, the people also have made considerable progress in governing themselves. You are already on first base, how much more if we unite; we will undoubtedly make homebase. Comparatively speaking, it took Guam 50 years to reach the position where she is now. But here in Saipan, only 16 years. The Navy should be commended.

Under the administration of Governor Charles Pownall, Guam had semi-self-government. Under the Organic Act, the President of the U. S. shall determine what federal agency shall administer the Marianas Islands. The Interior Department in Guam is not like the proverbial "Staff of St. Joseph" which is noted for its permanency or stability. It could be transferred to the Air Force, Army, Navy, etc.

In Guam there is no agency which can represent the United States Government, other than the U. S. Attorney. Why? Because it protects and defends the interest of the U. S. Government. Before we came here, I took the liberty of consulting the high officials in Guam, both military and civilians and I asked them whether he (U. S. Attorney) is against the unification of the Marianas Islands. He (U. S. Attorney) assured me that he is not opposed to it. He further stated to me that before he went to Washington, D. C. he (U. S. Attorney) was somewhat dubious, but the more he makes research and read about it the more he is convinced that there is a way to make possible the realization of the unification idea.

Admiral Erdmann was also visited by Mr. WonPot (A. B. WonPot Speaker of the Fifth Guam Legislature). Paranthetically let me say that the letter of the Naval Administrator was introduced as evidence I have something here to say that it will contradict that, Mr. WonPot and the Admiral had a two hour conference about three days before we left Guam and he (Admiral) said that the resolution requesting for the unification should have been transmitted by the Saipanese to the United Nations and not to the United States Congress or government.

Therefore, we should take the advice of those people in high positions who represent

J. SABLAN (GL): continued- more than just one commander. Mr. Lausi (Anthony Lausi of the office of Territories, Department of Interior) and other several Senators. We have documents and authorities from which we can accomplish our desire. I submit the names of those individual I mentioned as evidence against the one letter submitted by Mr. Elias Sablan.

It is understandable why some of the people here would not speak against the Navy - as the saying goes: You can't bite the hand that feeds you. We in Guam experienced the same thing during the Pre-Organic Act era. In fact, I was accused of being pro-navy. However, when the Organic Act was enacted by the United States Congress I was the first in line to greet it's enactment. That is all I have to say now, and I will give the floor to Congressman San Miguel of Guam. He has something important to say on the subject.

O. BORJA: Honorable San Miguel.

SAN MIGUEL (GL): Well, I just want to clarify some points on the letter which Mr. Elias Sablan handed me. It says in this letter that the Naval Administrator has been requested to inform the Saipan Legislature that the United States Government does not officially support the discussion of the Marianas integration.

Since we are going on records, I would like to see for the record a letter or authority from the Congress of the United States or the U. S. Government delegating the Naval Administrator to represent the U. S. government. It did not say in this letter that the United State government in Saipan does not favors or support the discussion of integration.

About two weeks ago, a Senator Murray (James Murray) who head the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee said, as it appears in the Guam Daily News: "Senator James E. Murray, Chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has declared that he is symphathetic with the idea behind a resolution adopted recently by the Saipan Legislature urging the reintegration and the unification of Guam and the other Islands in the Marianas group".

We, from Guam, and I am sure, the public would be pleased also -- if Mr. Elias Sablan would be kind enough to submit for the record the source or origin of such request as it appears in the letter signed by the Naval Administrator, Cdr. Mortensen.

Do you have that information with you Mr. E. Sablan?

ELIAS SABLAN: Mr. San Miguel, that letter was signed by Ralph H. Mortensen, Commander U. S. Naval Reserve, and attested by LCdr. Steele. I will refer your request to them.

OOKA (GL): On the same letter Mr. Elias Sablan, I would like to know or can you give us that information before we leave for Guam? It says here that the Naval Administrator has been requested to inform the Saipan Legislature that the U. S. government does not officially support the discussion of the Marianas integration.

OOKA (GL) continued - Resolution No 2, of the Saipan Legislature states that the subjects being discussed are the integration of the Marianas and the invitation extended to the U.S. Legislature. Are both subjects for discussion disapprove? Or do they (U. S. Gov't) want us not to come to Saipan for that is one subject the resolution ask for. The other is the integration. I would like a reply whether both subject matters have not support of the U. S. Government. I like to take that information back with me.

ELIAS SABLAN: Fine, Mr. Ooka, I will take your request to the authorities.

The 5th question on the 12th "whereas" states that the reintegration means increase in trade, travel, and greater prosperity for all. I do know that the Trust Territory Islands are being subsidized - How can trade and travel be increased? What is the basis for that statement in the resolution?

*Logistical Problems* | I have been to Rota which is under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department, I do not see much there. I do hope that every two months there will be at least one ship calling there and one logistical flight every month.

J. SABLAN (GL): Well, that situation is not the fault of Guam. I mean we don't make that determination. It is not likely that we reap the benefit of unification immediately. That will take time.

*Travel* | Now I personally approve the matter of security clearance. The Naval Authority should have that power. However, I believe that the people of the Marianas should be permitted to travel with greater freedom or less restriction.

On the economic aspect, unification will permit labor movement or mobility - That is from area of greater concentration of available labor force to the area where labor is needed. This situation will create economic prosperity.

Then, too, we have the Finance Development Administration which can loan to farmers monies to improve or develop their farms. Some of these funds can be made available here, but we can not do so now unless we are unified.

Mr. Elias Sablan do you wish to continue your questioning?

E. SABLAN: On the same 12th whereas which states that unification will enable Guam to be less dependent on military economy. I have two questions to ask on this. First, how can this be accomplished if we disengaged ourselves from the military. Secondly, why is it that Saipan was not mentioned in that paragraph when Saipan is more dependent on military economy?

J. SABLAN (GL): I believe that both here and Guam the military encourages the idea that we should cultivate our economy so that we could be less dependent on them.

J. SABLAN (GL) con't:

As you know, time will come when military preparedness will be reduced, and, therefore, military expenditures will be curtailed correspondingly. That is why we are preparing or should prepare now so that we won't have to return to the farms. We don't want this to surprise us. The military can purchase fresh produce from local sources but because of the precariousness or unreliability of supply they have to import a lot from elsewhere. The result is that sometime, our produce rots.

But if we unite, the government could establish reefers or other facilities to minimize spoilage until such time when private corporation can take over.

In Guam, we have the welfare fund which was established to help needy families. A portion of this fund can be easily transferred here to assist those who are in need, but we have no authority to do so now under the present political framework.

The budget for the Department of Education in Guam is in the amount of 3 million dollars annually. The school enrollment in Guam is about 14 thousands which is considerably more than most of the population of all the islands. Some of these students came from here and other islands.

In this connection, the Administration in Guam submitted a bill to the Guam Legislature geared to charge tuition fees to outside students. But the Legislature felt that passage of the bill would impose additional financial burden on the people of the Northern Marianas; thus, the proposed legislation was not enacted.

The idea or motive for not acting on that bill is to avoid criticism from you. You people might say that we are inconsistent in our thinking, that is to say, that on one hand we want to assist you by unifying the Marianas, yet, we turn around and charge tuition fees to your students.

Likewise in the T. B. Section of our Hospital, medication and hospitalization is free. But the administration wanted a law to charge non-Guamanian patients fees. This measure also failed of passage.

Do you have other questions Mr. Sablan?

T. C. OOKA (GL): I like to elaborate on that a little bit.

O BORJA: Mr. Ooka

T. C. OOKA (GL): In Guam it is estimated that 12 million dollars will be collected from taxes. But our economy is predominantly Military - there is no industry - but we do collect taxes from business and there is no other source of revenue.

In fact there is a plan, and I am one of the supporter of this plan, to establish fishing industry in Guam. But this is not easy. Our people cannot come in here or in Rota to fish. If, however, we are amalgamated - you people can catch the fish and we will provide the market for it. There will be no prohibition on the price.

Under the present setup, however, we cannot use our facilities or encourage our ship to enter here or Rota because of some restrictions. If the good lord should bless our union, it does not mean that the people of Guam will migrate to Tinian to enlarge their real estate holdings, - the owners of those properties have the right and freedom to lease or sell their properties. That's their business.

Now if the people here, Tinian and Rota can supply Guam, in sufficient quantity, with meat or other products, we can purchase a ship that will transport those goods to the market in Guam.

Guam imports about 5 million dollars worth of merchandise a year. These could very well be from here and other islands - but we cannot do it unless we are united. Hence, we are not the only one to benefit from unification.

We are not suggesting that we should get rid of the Navy. Truthfully, there are more Guamanians under the Navy Payroll than under the Government of Guam. If it wasn't for the Military in Guam we would now be in the stage of pre-agonny. That is why we should not hate or agitate the Navy here. We are here to cooperate. But we are motivated by the principle of life, liberty and to pursue "self-help" and the rights to our happiness. These rights which we are seeking are not in conflict with the mission of the Military to deter war and preserve world peace. In other words we are free to make a decent living.

To say that the Saipanese are living in destitution is incorrect; however, their opportunities are limited. These can be developed and enlarged when we accomplished unification.

E. P. SABLAN: Thank you, Mr. Ooka. You practically answered my second questions.

OOKA (GL): That's good we can get through that much faster.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): It is not likely that the people of Guam will migrate over here, instead the reverse is true.

J. T. SABLAN (GL) con't.: Even now the trend is for the people of Saipan to go to Guam. As a matter of fact some people in Guam fear that the Saipanese might pose a threat to their positions. If the Territorial Party makes an issue of that, the people might not vote for us.

As for me, I prefer that the jobs being held by the Filipinos in Guam, be given to the people of the Marianas. In fact, the building industry in Guam is monopolized by the Saipanese - they like them because they are efficient workers.

There are acres upon acres of land in Guam which the Government is still holding because of the uncertainty of the world situation. This could very easily be made available to the people, circumstances permitting. That is all on that, so I'll return the floor to Mr. Elias Sablan.

E. P. SABLAN: Mr. Chairman, there is one more and after that I'll yield the floor to my colleagues until tomorrow.

Will Saipan be represented in the Legislature in Guam and will the Governor of Guam be the Chief Executive for Saipan?

J. T. SABLAN (GL): I think I answered that partially - when I made reference to the Virgin Islands.

This, of course, is the thing we have to determine ourselves, or recommend ourselves. As you know, representative government is the core or heart of democracy.

Mr. Homme, the U. S. Attorney in Guam told me that it is not only the islands that want unification, perhaps some day some nations will petitioned to be incorporated as states within the American union. As matter of fact, there is a movement to incorporate the entire islands in the Trust Territory, not only the Marianas.

Now I understand there is a pending Legislation in the U. S. Congress to give the Trust Territory more self-determination that is an Organic Act similar to Guam. Under this framework it is possible that some of you might be a governor. In fact, I was accused that I am aspiring to be a Governor here. To tell you the truth, if I want to be a director it wouldn't be difficult. I can always get it. In any case, I like to see the unification of the Marianas Islands before I leave the Guam Legislature. I can't sell you the idea of integration unless you value the American form of Government. The people must decide for themselves whether they want self government or independence. That is in the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement as signed by the United States government and the United Nations.

J. SABLAM (GL) con...: Under the Trust Territory Agreement, the Administering Authority, in that case the U. S. is entitled to constitute the unification of the Trust Territory under its jurisdiction.

The Trusteeship Council has recommended that Rota and Saipan be reunited. So I suggest that you petition the United Nations to unite Saipan and Guam. The same way the U. N. recommended that Saipan and Rota be unified.

E. P. SABLAM: Thank you Mr. Sablan. Honorable Antonio Palacios is recognized.

A. PALACIOS: I am extending my sincere appreciation to the four gentlemen from Guam. It is no doubt, a sacrifice for them to leave their families in order to come here in response to our invitation.

I have only one question to ask because most of my doubts have been clarified by Mr. E. Sablan. I rise to support the unification movement. The letter that was submitted by Mr. Elias Sablan stating in substance that the U. S. Government does not officially support this movement was adequately refuted by both Mr. Ooka and San Miguel. But I rise here to ask Mr. Elias Sablan who requested the Naval Administrator of Saipan to write that letter.

It is understood here in Saipan that we are not here to overthrow the Navy. But it is equally understood that the Military are here, for security reasons. However, their organizational framework are not geared to govern civilian society permanently. Government is a function of democracy, the people in this instant, is the civilian authority or agency which should govern us.

Now, is it your promise and is it contemplated that unification means common action for common life and prosperity and common sacrifice? Or does unity means the survival of Guam only and death for Saipan? I wish one of you gentlemen will clarify that.

T.C. OOKA (GL): By definition, unity means common actions, and common survival. Otherwise unity ceases to exist.

JOE R. CRUZ: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: The Honorable Jose R. Cruz is recognized.

JOE R. CRUZ: Mr. Chairman, I would like to add a little bit to the discussion on the Trusteeship Agreement between the United States and the United Nations.

Article 76, paragraph B, clearly stipulate that the administering authority should and encourage the development and enlargement of the economic, political, social, and educational status of the Trust Territory Islands.

Mr. Chairman and honorable-gentlemen, I made reference to that provision of the Trusteeship Agreement, because a letter was introduced here as exhibit "A". This letter is from the Naval Administrator here in Saipan which states that the United State Government does not officially support the discussion of the Marianas Unification. That letter, it seem to me, immediately if not subvert the intent and



JOSE R. CRUZ Continued: Technical criticism was advance against Resolution 367, as adopted by the Fourth Guam Legislature, which seemingly exclude the minority group here in Saipan. This criticism has no foundation in as much as the resolution itself uses the all inclusive term, "inhabitants." That includes Carolinans, Guamanians, Japanese, etc.

The question of economic prosperity was raised. You will recall, gentlemen, that during Japanese Administration here, Saipan was quite prosperous. Why? Because Japanese capital flowed in as well as technology. The end result was that business boomed and prices were reduced considerably. The wages also increased correspondingly. (applause)

A. DIAZ: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Diaz is recognized.

A. DIAZ: The unification of the Marianas is hampered by the Trust Territory of the Pacific. It does not seem logical that artificial barrier should separate these people when the Marianas Islands are inhabited by the people who have common ancestry, common history, linguistic affinity, and who are of the same race. In previous years, gentlemen from Guam came here and the subject of unification was proposed. But no further development was accomplished because our congressmen refused to consider their proposal.

Our suffering and problems are great that I am appealing for the assistance of the Guam Legislature to cooperate with us in solving these problems through unification. The jurisdiction of the Trust Territory is so widely disperse that concentration of effort on one specific area is virtually impossible. Although the United Nations represent many nations, the United States government has the right to determine the future of the Marianas by right of conquest.

Since World War I, Saipan was shifted from one flag to the other, in the same manner that one passes a football back and forth. We have been treated like animals with no inherent human rights. This is our chance to be recognized and identified as human being and be placed under one governmental jurisdiction where we could have a sense of belonging. We are getting sick and tired of being commodity traded in the international market places or as pawn in the struggles for power politics.

Our educational system has little practical value. Why? Because even if we produce well trained and well educated people, we have no place or positions whereby their talents can be utilized. We again ask the Guam Legislature to assist us in finding a place for our future generation whereby they could live in peace and enjoy the dignity of human beings.

In many cases, we have been deprive of all our rights, and of those things which are normal and necessary for a dignified human existence. However, we are powerless to resist this encroachment upon our rights, because we are people of limited power and resources.

A. DIAZ continued: A unified Marianas would, however, strengthen our positions and secure for us the blessing of life and liberty which is after all the essence of democratic government.

Now the problem of unemployment here is in the upward trend. Eventually, the lack of employment will reduce the revenue of our government, and the decrease of revenue will result in the collapse of governmental services, and our government will cease to have any practical value. Hence, self-government, which is the objective of the Naval Administration here in Saipan, will be eliminated altogether.

But worse of all our children who are now being educated at our schools will have no positions to fill, and instead of returning to the farm or other menial employment they would prefer to remain idle, and therefore, eventually become a menace to our society.

Should the Guam Congress be willing to agree with the unification of Saipan and Guam, we can be assured that we would be able to accomplish greater freedom and greater economic prosperity for all (applause).

O. BORJA: It is now after 4:30 p. m. In conformity with our house rules we will adjourn now, and our conference will resume tomorrow morning at 8.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1959

At about 8:30 O'clock in the morning, the second day of the conference was called to order by Speaker Olympio T. Borja.

O. BORJA: The Special Session-Conference of the Saipan Legislature and the Select Committee on Saipan Mission of the Fifth Guam Legislature will resume their discussion on the Unification of the Marianas Islands.

Gentlemen, I would like to apologize for our half hour tardiness this morning. Our recess, according to the schedule in our program, will be changed to 10 a. m. instead of 9:30 a. m.

The floor is now open for discussion.

W. REYES: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Reyes is recognized.

W. REYES: Mr. Chairman, members of the Guam Legislature, I will direct my inquiries to anyone among the Guam Legislature. It is my sincere hope that I will pose my questions in such brief manner, and I would appreciate receiving clear and brief answers. I have about 17 questions to ask. I am sure some other members would likewise desire to ask questions. First, I would like to know the date when Resolution No. 367 of the Guam Legislature was transmitted to the U. S. Congress.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): You meant the result or the date?

W. REYES: The date.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): That was approved by the Fourth Guam Legislature in 1958. We had our session in Agana on January and sometimes all through the latter part in February. The second portion of our regular session was from June and July; 60 days is allotted for each annual session by the Organic Act. That is, 30 days in January and 30 days in July.

This resolution I believe was adopted in February in 1958, and it usually takes about a week or so before it is transmitted. The question whether it was transmitted at one o'clock or 3 o'clock, is not really important, it seems to me.

T. C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Ooka is recognized.

T. C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman, the adoption of that Resolution was on July 8, 1958, the date of transmittal, I can forward that information later.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): I think you people can answer that question, as to the date, because a copy of that resolution was transmitted to the Speaker of the Saipan Legislature.

O. BORJA: I think there is a letter here from the Speaker WonPot of the Guam Legislature, in reference to that resolution.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): If it is a question as to when that resolution was received here, I think you people have that information.

W. REYES: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Reyes.

W. REYES: I would like to know when Resolution No. 367 was actually transmitted to the U. S. Congress.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Here is one, can you read that, Mr. Speaker, because I can't see very well. The same resolution was transmitted on the same date.

O. BORJA: It is dated 23rd July 1958, and received by the Saipan Legislature on the 8th of August 1958.

It reads: "This certifies that Resolution No. 367, relative to requesting congress of the United States to cause the political reintegration of the Marianas Islands by incorporating the Islands of the Northern Marianas within the governmental framework of the Territory of Guam, was on the 8th day of July 1958, duly and regularly adopted."

J. T. SABLAN (GL): There you have the dates of it's adoption and transmittal.

W. REYES: Is that the date when it was transmitted?

J. SAN MIGUEL (GL): That is the date when it was adopted.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): May I ask why do you ask that question?

W. REYES: Mr. Chairman, that question leads directly to the second question which I will ask. Resolution No. 367 transmitted to the Saipan Legislature on July 23, 1958, states that the Guam Legislature has from time to time received many letters and correspondence from leaders and residents of Saipan. And it is on the basis of these communications that the Guam Legislature has introduced and adopted said Resolution. Is there any other reference or basis which obligated the Guam Legislature to adopt this Resolution?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Mr. Speaker.

O. BORJA: Mr. J. Sablan.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I don't know whether you were present yesterday, but that question has been answered by referring to the statements of various leaders from Saipan, as well as that article entitled "Let's have one Marianas." I'm sure you are more familiar with this article because it was published here. Then also, the Saipan Journal which is comparable to a newspaper here. Then you have those residents of Saipan who came to Guam and expressed their desire for a reunification.

W. REYES: It is now evident that the Resolution that was transmitted to the U. S. Congress was based on the opinion of certain persons.

T.C. OOKA (GL): With your permission Mr. Reyes, I came here with this committee not in response to the desire of seven persons only, but it is my impression that this is the desire of the majority. I read the report which indicated that over fifty percent of the people of Saipan wants unification. We, in Guam, even in our own congress, the will of the majority always prevail (applause).

Your impression or statement that only a few individuals wants unification is erroneous. It is the majority that wants it, that's why I am here. (applause).

W. REYES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a correction on the record. I mean to say "certain" persons, and I do not mean to say "seven". It appears that there is a discrepancy between the date of transmittal to the U.S. Congress of this Resolution, 23 February 1958, and the date of the report of the Saipan Committee on Unification. The date of that report according to that record is May 5, 1959.

It is quite evident that this Resolution of the Guam Legislature was transmitted to the U.S. Congress before the will of the majority here in Saipan was actually ascertained, under the report or investigation that was made. I will proceed to the next question.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I will answer that. The report was merely to put on record or to make official the will or desire of the majority of the people of Saipan. This report, however, was not the basis upon which Resolution 367 was adopted by the Fourth Guam Legislature. It was merely to strengthen or concretized the wishes of the majority here.

I do not want you to get the erroneous impression that it is only the people of Guam who desires unification. As a matter of fact, it is not unlikely that the people

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Now I want to verify from the listening audience whether these efforts are not supported by the majority of the people here. Please indicated by your applause (round of applause).

W. REYES: Mr. Speaker, do I still have the floor?

O.T. BORJA: The chair recognizes Mr. Reyes.

W. REYES: It is my hope and desire that I will not be misunderstood.

I will proceed through channel. The reason why I ask for the date of the transmittal of that Resolution, because I see now that the transmittal of that Resolution to the U. S. Congress antedate the report of the Committee on unification.

One year ten months after the transmittal of Resolution 367 to the U. S. Congress that the people of Saipan indicated their desire to join with Guam as indicated in the report of the Committee. It is just now that the people of Saipan indicated their desire to unite with Guam by their applause, as well as the report dated 5 May 1959. Now I shall proceed to my next question.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I know now that you want to see and want to understand. It is not only those who are blind that cannot see, but he is equally blind who refuses to see what may be seen.

As I have said our Resolution was not based upon the report of your Committee, but rather it was base on the information we have received, and from the various conversations which we have conducted with residents of Saipan that the majority of the people of Saipan desire unification with the Territory of Guam.

The information which we have received from such Civic Leaders as Mayor Benavente, Congressman Cruz, and others, indicate that it is the majority who want it. However, the majority in the Saipan Legislature do not support this movement because the majority of them are employees of the Navy and they fear repercussion should they publicly support this movement.

We too in Guam have experienced the same thing. For example, before the enactment of the Organic Act for Guam, Judge Manibusan feared that he might lose his position once the Organic Legislation was put into effect and became applicable for Guam.

But you should/<sup>not</sup>feab displacement because of unification. The people here in Saipan would remove you, should you become inefficient or become maleficent in office.

This is equally true with me in Guam. Should the people in Guam disapprove of what I am saying now because I appear to be overly enthusiastic about unification; next election their resentment would be indicated in the ballot as they would not put me back in office.

As I have said before I prefer to lose when I am right than to win when I am wrong. . As what President Truman said, I'll rather be right than to be a President". I'll rather be right than to be a congressman.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Even in America the government is run by civilians, and not by military. Only in other countries whereby the military has the upperhand.

W.S. REYES: Mr. Chairman, please don't tire out. I see now that the Resolution on the reintegration which was subsequently transmitted to the U.S. Congress was base on the opinion of Mayor, and Congressman Cruz, and others; and it was in no way predicated on facts or investigation which clearly indicate the number of people who are for and those who are against and to which we can prefer to.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman, may I be recognized?

O.T. BORJA: Mr. Ooka, you may have the floor.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Ladies and gentlemen, look at us up here. Does it looks like we represent the majority of the population in Guam? I came here not as Mr. Tomas Ooka, but as representative of the people of Guam.

I was elected by majority of the people of Guam. Likewise, should Mr. Cruz come to Guam, I consider him not as Mr. Cruz, per se, but he is officially a representative or he represents the majority of the people of Saipan in as much as he was elected by plural majority. That is all I have to say. (applause).

A.A. DIAZ: Mr. Speaker, question. Please! Please!

O.T. BORJA: No one can seek the floor until Mr. Reyes yield the floor.

W. REYES: Gentlemen, I would like to beg your indulgence. Perhaps this question may seems silly, however, they are really important. Who are Guamanians? Does the term Guamanian includes those statesiders who are residents of Guam? And does it include also outsiders who are now residing in Guam?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Guamanian includes those who are of Guamanian ancestry. That is to say those people whose parents are either partly or all Guamanian.

Actually that means those who are born of Guamanian ancestry and those of Guamanian blood. However, if the term Guamanian seems offensive, we can easily change it and use some other designation such as Marianas, or whatever is more appropriate. The term used herein is not the most significant. This in many cases, we find that one term double meaning, and one can only get the significance or meaning of the term out of its context.

As a further clarification on this, the Guam Legislature has recently created a committee to study and preserve the Chamorro language. The reason for this is that we realized the need to have one basic authority or an approved standard in the use and form of the chamorro language. As a matter of fact, I have suggested to Mr. Elias Sablan to join this committee.

Mr. Ooka perhaps would like to say something on this.

T.C. OOKA (GL): It is true that sometime a word would have the same spelling, and sound, but different in meaning.

the definitions which have been advanced. It is my feeling that no satisfactory definition of the term Guamanian was offered. Therefore I would like to ask it this way.

Are those people Guamanian who are of Chamorro ancestry, or those who falls within that category because they are residents regardless of origin, be they Filipinos, Carolinians or Saipanese?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): There is no monopoly on the term Guamanian. It includes those who are residents of Guam.

W.S. REYES: My other question is like this: Guamanian which includes all residents of Guam, according to you, desire the unification of the Marianas.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): It is not 100%, but the majority.

W.S. REYES: This includes people whose ancestry are not Chamorro, like American-Guamanian, Filipinos, Guamanian and others who desire unification.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Even statesiders are in favor of unification, but no doubt some will not want it or have subsequent changed their minds. As you know, in our democratic system, the majority rules.

Some of them might change their minds, as they say: "A wise man changes his mind, but a fool doesn't".

W.S. REYES: Mr. Chairman, population-wise, Guam has about 4 times more people than Saipan - I mean only the natives and not the others.

How many of the Guamanians really understand the implications of unification?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Well, we put things in their proper perspective. That is to say, we place things in their logical order. In this specific case, we had to ascertain the desire and feeling of the people here before we can present this problem to the people in Guam. When we get home our own Legislature, mind you, will put us on the grind.

The newspaper at home which is definitely against the incumbent Legislature supports this movement. If there is a number of people who oppose this, they will no doubt express their objections through the "Letter to the Editor" column.

I like to read to you the editorial of the Guam Daily News, date June 31, 1959: "Lets get together". "As early as 1950, shortly after the inception of civil government under the Organic Act, considerable local interest was indicated in the possible reunification of Guan and her sister islands in the Marianas group. Now-- nine years latter-- the question is no longer merely for barber shop discussion. It has been brought up again before the United Nations Trusteeship Council as a result of two visiting missions. And the people of the Trust Islands apparently are taking the matter more seriously than ever before."

There is more to this editorial, but it is clear that even the news which is against this Legislature is in favor of this movement. Why? Because this is not design to benefit the party but the people.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I like also to read to you thereport of the United Nations Trusteeship Council. Section 63, Administration of the Trust Territory.

"The people of Rota in the course of a public meeting, again requested the Mission that consideration should be given to the unification of all the peoples of the Marianas. Although, they were still debating the various aspects of the question among themselves, particularly the question of a future relationship between Rota, Guam and the Saipan District. They appeared generally to agree that a union of the entire area was desirable from their point of view, since free and unimpeded travel through out the Marianas for purpose of education, trade and visits to relatives and friends would be of advantage to all the inhabitants. They stated that their desire to see the creation of greater unity in the Marianas chain had been further strengthened as a result of Resolutions addressed to the Congress of the United States and calling for the unification of the Marianas, adopted by the Guam Legislature over the past three years."

W.S. REYES: Is there a tentative plan for the administration of the Marianas. Do you know of any?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): As you know in a baseball game, before you reach the home plate, you have to get to first base first. In other words, to set up a plan, even if it is a tentative one, for the administration of the Marianas before we determine the desire of the people here is like putting the cart before the horse.

Incidentally, the house of the Interior and Insular Affairs is scheduled to arrive in Guam this year. I have been assigned to take this matter up with them. So before we can proceed any further on this matter, the committee must be fully informed. I am sure this committee will come here also. Whatever position you take on this issue is up to you.

The Speaker has said that its time for recess, so I'll return the floor to him.

W.S. REYES: Mr. chairman, could I finish my questions when we return back from recess?

O.T. BORJA: Yes, we will now recess for 15 minutes.

At about 10:18 a.m., the Speaker call the house to order.

Lets come to order. The conference on unification of the Marianas will resume.

Honorable William Reyes has the floor. Mr. Reyes, do you wish to continue?

W.S. REYES: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have several questions more, I shall continue.

Honorable Mr. Chairman, in the heading of Resolution 367, requests that the islands in the Northern Marianas be integrated within the Territory of Guam. Does that request contemplates also the granting of citizenship to the inhabitants of these islands?



J.T. SABLAN (GL): Well, that depends on what we want and ask for. For examples: In Guam when we were petitioning for citizenship - the right was co-extensive with the obligation. In other words, you can't have the rights and not the obligation. Rights and obligations or duties are not only co-relative, but they are co-extensive and co-existent.

But to expedite unification we might first ask for unification, then citizenship will come next. But that is a question that we ourselves have to answer. Mind you, this will take time.

W.S. REYES: The Resolution asks Congress of the United States "to cause the integration of the Marianas Islands within the governmental framework of the territory of Guam."

My question then, is whether incorporation of the Marianas Islands within the Territory of Guam automatically make these islands possession or Territory of the United States and whether amalgamation of these islands is concomitant or concurrent with the granting of citizenships?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I think the Resolution 2 which the Saipan Legislature adopted inviting the Guam Legislature to unite in the effort in the unification of the Marianas Islands, includes the granting of citizenship also.

T.C. OOKA (GL): I like to elaborate a little bit on the subject of citizenship. Since the people of Guam are citizens of the United States, once unification is accomplished, the people of the Marianas would likewise be citizens - citizenship by virtue of union with Guam. But this is a question that only the United States government can supply the answer. During our struggle for civil government we were not the one who determined what form of government we would have. The Organic Act was enacted by the 81st Congress of the United States. The government of Guam as well as the Guam Legislature operate under the authority of that law, and we cannot amend, repeal or add any portion of that law unless the United States Congress act on it. In the event that there is a provision in that law which is abnoxious to the people of Guam or that the Guam Legislature feel that it should be repealed, all we can do is to adopt a resolution requesting the Congress of the United States to eliminate that particular section of the Organic Act.

Now any law or legislation which is not prohibited or in conflict or inconsistent with the Organic Act or laws of the United States applicable to Guam, the Guam Legislature can and has the power to enact such measure into law. The governor of Guam cannot make a statutory law.

Should the Marianas Islands be incorporated or unified under one governmental framework, the Congress of the United States can be petitioned or requested to amend the Organic Act, or to provide the form or organic framework for the government of the Marianas Islands.

W.S. REYES: Is it contemplated within the intent and purpose of Resolution 367 that the people of Guam desire to cooperate and to assist the District of Saipan in becoming the United States possession and the Saipanese as well as other people who are not Guamanians to become citizens of the United States. Is that correct?

correct.

W.S. REYES: Perhaps I have been misinformed. I will base myself according to my understanding on this matter. Is it not true that some of the Guamanians feel that the extension of civil government to Guam, and the enactment of the Organic Legislation was premature? That is an honest question?

J. SAN MIGUEL (GL): It is quite evident that your information is erroneous and your understanding of Guam is perverted. For 8 years Guam has enjoyed civil government, under the Organic Act, and that the Congress of the United States are not only pleased with our records, but they have high regards for our accomplishments within this relatively short period.

Under the provisions of the Organic Act, the United States Congress reserve the right and power to invalidate within one year, any legislation enacted by the Guam Legislature.

To date I know of no law enacted by the Guam Legislature that has been invalidated by the Congress of the United States. This, in itself, indicates that the Guam Legislature is capable of directing the policy of the government as well as the destiny of the people of Guam.

W.S. REYES: Next question Mr. Chairman, I am really impress with the spirits and determination of the members of the Guam Legislature. When the term Saipan District or Northern Marianas was used, I assume it includes Tinian and its inhabitants. I am convince that the Resolution adopted by the Fourth Guam Legislature requesting the Congress of the United States to incorporate the Marianas Islands within the governmental framework of the Territory of Guam precedes or was prior to the determination that the majority of the people of Saipan want and desire the unification.

I do not know of any letter or record upon which the desire of the people of Tinian can be based. Yet they are included in the intend of that resolution. Could you answer that please?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I am sure some of you people here can answer that question, I am sure Mr. Reyes can. But I am sure that this is a matter which involved the people of Tinian and Mr. Reyes or the Saipan Legislature has no rights to ask that question.

W.S. REYES: I am sure that the Guam Legislature is aware that Tinian is not under the administration of Saipan. However, since it is under the jurisdiction of the District of Saipan, it would seems that we should know whether they are included in the intent of Resolution 367. We would also like to know whether they have been consulted.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): I would like Mr. Cruz to read the U.N. Trusteeship Council report given to me by Mr. Eustaquio relative to the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

There is an Executive Order of the President of the U.S. to the effect that Saipan and Tinian be removed from the the administration of the Trust Territory, and be placed under the jurisdiction of the Navy. This jurisdiction is to be known as the District of the Pacific Islands.

O. BORJA: Before I give the floor to Mr. Cruz, I like to clarify this point. Mr. Reyes mentioned that the Municipality of Tinian is separate and distinct from that of the Municipality of Saipan. Our jurisdiction included the Islands North of Saipan. Tinian has it's own congress, Mayor, and they enact their own laws themselves. It is not politically affiliated with Saipan, although it is in the Saipan District.

We have no authority to enact any legislation which may be applicable to Tinian because their governmental structure is completed and separate from ours. But since Mr. Reyes wants to find out whether Tinian has manifested any desire to unify itself with the other Islands, and any one in this congress who has that information, I would allow him the privilege of the floor to offer that information.

Mr. Cruz, do you have any information which can satisfy the question of Mr. Reyes?

JOE R. CRUZ: I do, Mr. Speaker. Beside myself, Mr. George C. Eustaquio, the Public Relation and Information Officer of the Fifth Guam Legislature, asked Mr. Felipe Mondiola, a congressman in Tinian, whether they desire to be united with Guam under it's governmental framework. According to the reply given by Mr. Mondiola, more than half of the people of Tinian favor unification with Guam, but the detail of this matter have not been presented to them. You can verify that with Mr. Eustaquio.

O. BORJA: Thank you Mr. Cruz.

W. REYES: I think we should have some loyal and faithful understanding with the people of Tinian. I do not want them to think or fool that they are being excluded. Now I would ask you this. Do you feel that the people of Saipan are politically, educationally, economically, and socially mature to compete with the Americans from Guam, especially those who came from the mainland; and that once the gates of Saipan is wide opened the invasion by Americans of the economic, social, and political field will be imminent. Are the people fully capable to compete with Americans who are experienced in trade and whose firms are well financed?

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Mr. Reyes, I feel that during the short period since our arrival here, I have known people who are actually smarter and who possesses information more than the most educated person in Guam. If I am wrong, forgive me.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Reyes you used the term competition. Do you mean competition in the business sense or in general?

W. REYES: Mr. Ooka, in general.

T.C. OOKA: If it is in general, you can't compete when there is a change of administration because there is no one to compete with. Government is not founded on the concept of free enterprises, however, competition is an acceptable thing, because we imposed no restriction on enterprise.

Competition in business benefits the people in general. A business does not bankrupt because of competition, but it is because of poor management. I do not see any reason why the consumers should subsidized an inefficiently manage business firms, by excluding an efficient competitor from engaging in any business venture.

T.C. OOKA(GL): Politically, it is good to have a competitor, and constructive criticism should be encouraged. It is from criticism that an office-holder can improve himself. And it is through competition and criticism that the interest of the government or public can be protected.  
(applause)

W.S. REYES: Mr. Speaker, could I clarify one point because apparently my question was misunderstood. I am not saying that the people of Saipan are economically, educationally and politically immature or insufficient to meet the outside competition and challenge.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): Would you consider that the Saipanese are more prosperous during the Japanese administration, than what they are enjoying now? And do they have more rights in their government? Is it possible, during the Japanese administration, for a native to be elected Mayor?

V.D. SABLAN: Yes.

J.T. SABLAN: Are the people here free to talk?

V.D. SABLAN: Yes.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): As I said, if you do not like the American system of government, and you prefer the Japanese government, then the subject of unification cannot be considered at this time.

But I was under the impression that you people wanted to be united with Guam. Do I understand you correctly, Mr. Reyes, that because of the lack of capacity and ability of the Saipanese that the Japanese came here?

W.S. REYES: Mr. Chairman, I'll repeat my previous statement.

I feel that the Saipanese will be relegated to secondary positions because they cannot compete with outside forces and consequently they would gradually be pushed out.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): You see, the admission of the outside capital does result in the displacement of the local economy. On the contrary, the government frequently subsidized private business firms so that the local economy can be boosted up. This usually result in high employment rate and greater prosperity for all.

For example; the shipping company here can be subsidized by the government, if no private firm is willing and able to continue its operation profitably. Where competition is keen, it is the people themselves who benefit. Then too, competition eliminates the inefficient businessmen, the result is that the prices will go down.

When it comes to competition, the people of Guam will stand to lose more in the long run. For this reason, they might have some misapprehension or some sense of insecurity.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): In the building industry, for example, the people of Saipan has the monopoly. I, for one, prefer to have my own home build by Saipanese than Guamanian.

T. OOKA (GL): I would like to make a comment on the statement made by Mr. Reyes about his observation in Guam. Some of his statements are true. But there are some also which are half-truth and are unconfirmed fragmentary information.

It is true that in the pre-Organic era, a number of positions were not available to the Guamanian because we lack qualified personnel to handle these positions. Consequently, these positions were filled by statesiders as well as Filipinos.

After the Organic Act, however, these positions were gradually taken over by Guamanians who were trained and educated to handle these positions. We are now displacing both statesiders, and Filipinos because trained and qualified Guamanians are turning out by the numbers. For example, For example; directorships, teachers, dean, and other high positions in our government, including those in the various military installations have been filled and handled by Guamanians. This is equally true in the blue-color category. Our schools are gradually developing skilled workers.

The Filipinos are now gradually displaced by our own workers. The Immigration authorities realized this and as a result the present policy of the Immigration is to phase-out non-local employees.

Thus, the present policy of our government is: when we don't have qualified Guamanians to filled a given position, we recruit from off-Island. But as soon as we have a Guamanian who is qualified to handle this position, the employment of the off-island employee will be terminated at the earliest possible time.

~~Now I want you to know that we are not seeking independence for Saipan, if this is what you are aspiring then we cannot support your effort toward independence. This is where we part company. As of this point, "we are no longer fellow traveler".~~

Even in Guam I personally, would not support any movement for independence, because Guam is not economically, politically, or socially capable to become independent. We in Guam are not independent, we are an unincorporated U. S. Territory. The U. S. government is still responsible for us. So if we accomplished unification, the U. S. government will be that much responsible for the welfare and common good of this territory.

What you need is the will and perseverance. What you need is the opportunity and the instruments whereby you can develop your inherent or native ability to survive and determine your own self. Unification is that instrument which will afford you the opportunity for greater measure of self-determination.

T.C. OOKA (GL): ~~Now~~ again, if it is independence that you want, I could not go along with this aspiration, and I wouldn't come here in the first place. (applause)

JOE R. CRUZ: Point of Order, Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: State your point of order, Mr. Cruz.

J. CRUZ: The question or the remark of Mr. Reyes for the major part are immaterial, irrelevant, incompetent, and without proper foundation, and it has no bearing on the subject being discussed.

The statements have insulted the people of Saipan because he stated that the people of Saipan are uneducated, immature, and are unable to determine their own rights and welfare (applause). That's a big insult to the people of this District (applause).

O. BORJA: Mr. Reyes if you wish for the record to explain your position as a matter of information or explanation then you may go ahead.

W. REYES: I shall hold my position in a calm manner. I would not lose my temper, but it is my desire I would not be misunderstood. I am speaking now as a representative of the people of Saipan. The Speaker has given the privilege to expound my ideas and what I think is right. I have never robbed the public of their rights. I am merely making a statement of facts. I am simply making reference to the present status of Saipan. I have some information which can substantiate my statements. Do I understand you gentlemen from Guam that unification will provide the curative remedy for the deficiency and sickness in our economy and education. I am referring again to Resolution 367 the next to last; "WHEREAS, the benefits of such a reunification of the Marianas, aside from the spiritual and moral uplift to be derived therefrom, would also mean a more viable economy for both Guam and the other islands, with the increased trade and travel meaning more prosperity for all and enabling Guam to become less dependent on a military economy

What is the phrase "enabling Guam to be less dependent on a military economy"?

Could you give me a short modified and bried explanation or definition of that phrase?

J. SADLAN (GL): It is not only in Guam, even here in Saipan once military preparedness is reduced the economy will suffer, and where will the population go, if not to the farms. But in order to lesson the impact of sudden withdrawal of the military expenditures, we should be preparing now to offset the harmful effects.

But that is not only in Guan. There are other places and countries where less dependency on military economy are the primary objective. Once we unite our efforts and resources will be pool to ether and as a result we would have a semi-self sufficient economy. Substantially that means that we should be less dependent on the economy of the Navy.

J.T. SABLAN (GL): The farmers in Guam as well as the farmers here would naturally prefer to sell their products at the dearest market. In other words they would like to raise their prices and still find market for them. But the tendency here now, is for supply to exceed demand. Therefore, the price will decline correspondingly.

The problem as it exist now is that the military cannot rely on supplies from the various islands in the Marianas because of its uncertainty, therefore, they have to import part of their requirements from the mainland. But once the Marianas islands are united, a steady supply or sources, can be organized whereby the military can purchase their vegetables, fruits, and other agriculture products from such steady source of supply. The important thing is for the source of supply to be reliable and under this condition, the people of Saipan and the Northern Marianas will not be benefited but including the people of Guam as well.

T.C. OOKA (GL): I can easily understand why Mr. Reyes should be apprehensive of that phrase - "enabling Guam to be less dependent on Military economy". But that phrase is not design to benefit Guam at the expense of the non-Guamanian. Even in Guam, it is not likely that a person with an education would return to the farm as a mean of employment. People with education usually occupy a white collar position, only the real farmers are the people who make their living out of the soil.

Recently, they have organized what they called the Farm Products Association. But I told these people that they can never be successful in their objectives unless they organize themselves with the farmers of the Northern Marianas. Why? Because if they cooperate and unite in their efforts to establish a steady supply and stable price, the military which is the chief purchaser of agricultural products in the Marianas cannot influence the prices. And it is not likely that they will purchase from outside the Marianas when quantity as well as quality can be had the right here. This is the meaning of the unification.

Unification of the Marianas Islands is not design to benefit the people of Guam only, it means commonly benefit, welfare and prosperity for all. (Applaus)

W.S. REYES:

Mr. Speaker, this is not part of my personal agenda, but I would like for the benefit of our guests from Guam as well as the listening audience to read in English and then translate it in Chamorro, what I called my "CREDO".

"I believe the people of the Saipan District will unanimously declare that they are willing to become Americans, and the islands to become United States Territories, but I do feel that it is too early, much too early. We are not ready to challenge our strong competitors and challengers - educationally economically and politically. We must first learn how to take care of small obligations and duties and then the bigger one. Becoming Americans will mean more responsibilities, more obligations, better understanding about ourselves and about our government. We must first learn to be independent and not to want to be Americans and our islands U. S. possessions because we want to be parasites to Americans. We have to first prove that we are ready for the great responsibilities and learn to love the United States of America and make it our Country, and be also ready to shed our blood to protect it for the great love that we must possess. It is not easy to put this into action. What we want is fact, reality - not guess! and really know and fully understand the duty of a citizen to his country. If we really want to become Americans and our islands to become U. S. Territory, let us be proud people of Saipan District, obeying our laws and rules, supporting our Municipal Government willingly and not to have \$10,000.00 debt as we have now. How can we carry out a big thing if we cannot carry out a small one? Let us build our house from the foundation first, not from the roof. Let us start our preparation. I guarantee 15 years of hard work and preparation, then the United States will be glad to have us, and we will get the United Nation's Approval. If the Guamanians are really interested in the welfare of the Northern Marianas and want the Islands to become U.S. possession and the people to become U. S. citizens, wouldn't it be better for the Northern Marianas people to submit a direct petition to the United Nations and the United States to avoid criticism of other nations, especially Russia and her statellites, rather than doing it through Guam or with Guam since Guam is U. S. Territory and the co-petitioners being Americans?

J.T. SABLAN: (GL):

I have already mentioned yesterday that the petition for the unification of the Marianas should be channeled through the U. N. I also mentioned yesterday that in order to avoid criticism from Russia and her satellites it is best that this matter or the petition for the reintegration of the Marianas be transmitted to the United Nations. We the people of Guam would not want to be considered as a tool of the U.S. in her ambition to enlarge her real estate. I think Mr. Reyes supports me in this respect. His "credo" is partially a reiteration of my statements yesterday.

T.C. OOKA (GL):

Mr. Reyes, I have so many friends here. I also have friends who are Saipanese and who are now living in Guam.

Mr. Reyes stated that the people of Saipan are economically, politically, socially immature and deficient. His statement is contrary to the facts as I observed them. Socially, I have met many people in Saipan who are not only hospitable, gregarious, but socially, acceptable. The sanitation here as well as the culture of the people are reasonably high. They are also quite faithful to their religions. Economically speaking, how could they have stable economy when prices are at an ~~inflatapmable~~ level and the prices of farm produce are at their lowest ebb. Now, I would like to ask Mr. Reyes whether he is a resident of Saipan.



W.S. REYES: Yes Mr. Ooka.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Here is a man who is a Saipanese and who has written a well composed and gramatically correct, essay.

Here is a man who is educationally capable.

Mr. Blanco I would like to direct a question to you. Is the Bank of America on the verge of bankruptcy? In other words, it is not losing money since you have assumed its management? (Laughter)

J.B. BLANCO: I think I am doing fine.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Blanco, I would like to ask your frank and honest opinion. Is it not true that when you first assumed the management of the Bank of America, you had some doubt and uncertain as to your capability to handle that position, but now you have more confidence in your capacity as a bank manager here in Saipan, is that correct?

J.B. BLANCO: Yes, that is correct.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Here is the second Saipanese who is educationally qualified in his position.

Mr. Segundo T. Sablan, when you were first offered and assumed the position of postmaster to manage and run the post office here, is it not true that you were uncertain and perhaps have anxiety. Did you not have that feeling?

SEGUNDO T. SABLAN: Doubt and anxiety.

T.C. OOKA (GL): But now your doubt and anxiety have been removed.

SEGUNDO T. SABLAN: That is right.

T.C. OOKA(GL): So here is the third person who is educationally qualified to handle his position. (Applause).

It it not true, my dear people, that you all sending your children to school so that they can be educated and therefore, they could be fruitful citizens of tomorrow.

Dr. Palacios, is it now true that you know quite a bit about medicine and that you are now practicing it?

DR. PALACIOS Yes, I am practicing but I do not know all of its ramifications.

T.C. OOKA (GL): In any case you are practicing it and you know something about it.

It is now evident that even among the few people that I have approached here that there is definite indication that the people are capable of handling the responsibilities that are vested in them, however limited.

Unification with Guam will enable your students here to persue their education and then return here where their education can be put into useful occupations.

OOKA - Con'd.

But the native ability of a person can only be determined when he is given the opportunity or when the opportunity is available where-by he can make use of his potentiality.

I know of a recent movement in Guam to place a tariff on imports from Saipan. However, this legislation was never pass because we feel that this will place additional hardship on the economy of this island. This movement to place a tariff on imports from the Marianas Islands was supported by the Farmers Colperative Association. Then, too the administration requested that a piece of legislation be enacted whereby the administration will be empowered to charge tuition fees to non-American citizens. This request was aborted by the Legislature because we feel that this will create a burden to the financial status of this island.

It is indeed a great sacrifice for me to leave my place of business to come here to discuss the question of Unification of the Marianas Islands. None of us here is being compensated for our time and efforts here. But I feel that this sacrifice is worth while in as-much as it is aim toward the welfare of the people of the Marianas. I shall not leave this place and I will not endorse the report of this committee, of which I am a member, unless I am fully convince that the desire to integrate the Marianas is in the majority.

I will not leave Saipan, even if it will last me till next year, unless ofcourse, you people wilfully deported me to Guam. (applause).

J.T. SABLON (GL): I like to add a little bit to the statement made by Mr. Ooka. Relative to the compensation of members of this committee. We did not receive any compensation in the form of salary but we have been given a perdiem allowance. The three of us here who are congressmen do not receive a salaries, but we do receive perdiem allowance of 10. dollars. We were given ten days to complete our business here so we were given 100 dollars advance allowance, subject to reimbursement.

Mr. Eustaquio who is an employee of the Legislature is being carried on the payroll. In addition, he was also given a perdiem allowance in the amount equivalent to those which each of us received.

Now in reference to Mr. Reyes statement that the Saipanese are not polotically ready for integration. I think Mr. Ooka adequately answered the question of social and economic maturity.

Politically, I do not know what he actually mean, if it is independence, then we don't want that. Independence was never contemplated in the Resolution which the Fourth Guam Legislature has adopted. If independence is what you want, then we can't support you on that.

ask for independence and everytime they are on the brink of bankruptcy they ~~go~~ to the congress of the U.S. for money.

The responsibility of independence is so great that we neither have the means nor the resources to be completely autonomous. Let us not follow the thinking or ideas of Mr. Reyes.

O.T. BORJA (SL):

It is now 12 o'clock so I will close this portion of our discussion until 1:30 when we will resume the final portion of our conference on the unification of the Marianas.

O.T. BORJA (SL):

At 1:30 Saturday afternoon the Speaker called the conference to order.

I do know that many of you have not expressed your opinion either for or against the unification of the Marianas. However, according to our house rules any member who has seek the prevelage of the floor and has been recognize by the charman will have the prevelage of the floor until such time when he has completed his discussion or has yielded the floor to other members. In as much as Mr. J.T. Sablan is now here, the honorable T. C. Ooka acting chairman is here in his place. The floor now is open for discussion.

W.S. REYES: (SL):

Mr. Chairman, I just want to make one modification because I feel that I have been misunderstood. The term social as used by Mr. Ooka has different meaning from the term social as I used it. Economically, educationally, politically are terms which have different conotations when they are used by the gentlemen from Guam.

The second correction or clarification which I like to make is on the term "independence." When I used the term independence this morning I did not mean to suggest that we should be completely free from external control. But I do mean that when we have reached that state when we can be free from external influence, then that will be auspicious time when we should unite with Guam.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

O.T. BORJA:

Thank you Mr. Reyes.

G.F. BORJA (SL):

Thank you gentlemen from Guam. You have already declared and explained fully the rights that would innure, should the unification of the Marianas be effected. I wish that you can give me the answers to two questions which are bothering me. It was declared that once unification is accomplished reference would be given to the native to the island, is that true? Is it true also that once we are united all the islands would be united under one flag, and all the rights and prevelige and obligations incident thereto would be extended equally to the people of the Marianas.

J. SAN MIGUEL:

Naturally.

G.F. BORJA (SL):

Thank you, I will proceed now. We the people of Saipan have a lot of fear unification.

When I was appointed by the Speaker to be a member of the committee on the Unification of the Marianas Island, I approached several people and discussed this matter, the promises which I had made to those people are not different from those which have been mentioned this morning by the Guam Legislatues. The only different is that those promises were elaborated here in greater detail. At the time when we were conducting our investigation as to the number of people here in Saipan who favored unification the committees report revealed that 63.8% of the people of Saipan are in favor of and the

M.F. ALDAN: You came here to discuss and to consider the possibility of integrating the Marianas Islands. I ask you then whether the amalgamation of the Marianas Islands will result in the welfare and prosperity for all, or is this design a retard to our progress.

I do recall that several years ago members of the Guam Legislature came here and proposed the idea of unification. It is my believe that those are the people who led or started this movement, and not one of you gentlemen who are here with us now. Although, my desire and my intention may not confirm to the wish of the public, since I am representing the people I will naturally bow to the will of the majority.

Bear with us gentlemen, and don't be too harsh on your judgement. We have now reached that stage of human relationship which is generally known as courtship. But the question is, who is making the overture, is it the people of Guam or the people of Saipan?

Since courtship naturally follows matrimony, the consent of the parents must naturally be obtained. In this particular case, the consent of the United Nations and the U. S. must be sought. It is possible that my ideas of Unification might be at variance with the desire of the people.

I regret to say that my understanding of political matters is extremely limited, and, therefore, at any time that the issue is political I would return this matter to the public because I feel that political matters is the concern of the public. Our intentions to unite with the rest of the Marianas Islands should not repudiate the services which have been rendered by the U. S. Navy. The question of unemployment and the seemingly lack of prosperity under Naval Administration is not base upon the inefficiency of the Navy or lack of interest in the welfare of Saipan. Perhaps, it is possible that due to the curtailment of appropriation, the governmental services has correspondingly been reduced.

I will not say what I don't know, but I will say what I do see. Will unification of the Marianas enable persons with criminal records to roam back and forth without any restriction? In other words, will Guam constitute as a refuge for criminal who are elusive fugitive, or will there restriction imposed upon them in the interest of good government, peace and order in the community.

If this movement for the integration of the Marianas is endorsed by the will of the majority then, whether I actually favor the idea or not of no practical value. I will naturally follow the desire of the people. I give you many thanks, gentlemen, for your interest in the welfare of our people here, and I am sure that your noble intentions is predicated upon historical fact, namely that we have common ancestry.

Finally, on the question of social, educational, and economical matters, I will be willing to discuss. However, when it is a political question, - or the destiny of the people is in valued then I return those subjects to the public. (applause)

As we have said time and again this matter is not for us to determine. The question whether Saipan wants to be united with Guam, is a question which you people can provide the answer. The resolution that was adopted specifically stated that. For your information resolution 367 has been reintroduced to the Fifth Guam Legislature under Resolution 27. The reason why that has not been adopted is because we needed additional information from you people whether you are actually in favor of reintegrating the marianas islands. Rest assured that once we get home, our own members will put us on the grind which would be more arduous than the inquisition which Mr. Elias Sablan, Mr. Reyes and Mr. Aldan have subjected us to. The report that will be submitted, will represent substantially the desires and wished of the Saipan. We will report only what we have seen and observed. You will not be mis represented. You are not obligated to follow our suggestions. It is you who must decide what side you wish to choose.

V.D. SABLAN (SL):

Thank you very much Mr. Speaker for giving me the opportunity to express my opinion. When this issue first came out I was the first person to doubt and fear its implications. I have been approach by my constituents and was ask how much I understand on the subject. I admit did not know much. Now we have had civil government here in Saipan, but I still have my doubts and anxiety because I do not actually understand the various ramifications, and implications should a change of administration, from the Navy to the civilian, eventuate. It has been alledged that civil government will be better than Naval Administration. I personally do not understand enough about government to dispute this matter. But I base myself on what the majority of the population want. Actually there are not many people here who have an authoritative knowledge of civil government. It is for this reason that we have adopted Resolution # 2 inviting the Guam legislature to inform the people on the subject. Your present here to day has erradicated some of our doubts and misconceptions about unification. The people now, I am sure, are fully informed and they have indicated their desire to be reintegrated with the rest of the islands in the Marianas. Thank you gentlemen, for your kind attention. If the people here indicated that they are 100% in support of this movement, then I want to go on record as favoring of this movement 125%.

DR. F. PALACIOS:

Thank you and welcome gentlemen from Guam. At the outset when the idea of unification was first being kicked around. I was somewhat dubious as to its merit and outcome. But now, I have changed my attitude and I am incline to believe that there is a considerable goodness in the idea and intent. Unification carries with it a degree of responsibility as well as rights and obligations. In any case, we should unite ourselves for the freedom, security and welfare of the people. I would like to suggest that a greater cohssion and cooperation be manifested in all fields of endeavor. It is evident, beyond reasonable doubt, that this movements for the assimilation of these Islands into one political entity is not only logical and practical but it is a necessity. We should unite not for the betterment of ourselves individually, but for the greater prosperity of our people and the welfare of our community. That is to say, for the protection of freedom, liberty and basic human rights. This should be our aim. May I again repeat myself and suggest that there should be a greater cooperation between here and Guam in the education and economic sphere. I will declare now that we are ready to unite with Guam. But we should prepare now for the greater responsibility which is incident to unification. We must preapare now or we shall never be ready to assume our responsibility as citizens of this world.

...the remarks of Dr. Palacios is not only meaningful but it is timely as well. Do you have any suggestion on which our aspiration can be fulfilled? If we are not united and if we do not have the authority to accomplish our desire, how can this be possible. The essence of the unification is that we should unite our efforts because one cannot exist without the other - "united we stand divided we fall".

O. BORJA: It is now 2:45 P.M. and this conference will recess for 15 minutes. We will resume our discussion on the unification of the Marianas Islands at 3:00 P.M. The house is now declared recess. It is now 3:05 P.M. and this house is declared in session. I will now give to the gentlemen from Guam the privilege of the floor.

J. T. SABLAN (GL): Before we came here we had numerous discussion on the subject of unification. It was decided that this matter should not be identified as a legislative program or a program of a single political party, but it is to be declared as the policy of the people of Guam. But it is conceivable that some members of the opposition party may oppose this movement on the ground that it is identified with the incumbent legislature. It is conceivable also that they will minimize or suppress the discussion of this subject until such time when they are in power to do so. But how could they do that when the voters do not even recognize their political existence or importance.

It may also be a good idea to create some sort of a commission, perhaps it could be know as a Commission on the Marianas Integration which will be composed of members from the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of our government. This commission will study and make recommendation to the congressional committee which is scheduled to arrive on November of this year.

T. OOKA (GL): I would like to elaborate further on that. At the expense of repeating myself, in order to benefit those people who have not heard what I've said yesterday, I will say that we came here not to compel upon you the idea of unification. Please note that we are not here to force you people to accept our ideas. This is a question which you yourself must provide the answer for. It is understood, of course, that there will be people in Guam who will oppose this movement, but these oppositions are isolated cases. Since our form of government is predicated on the principle of democracy, the will of the majority dictates what the policy of the government will be. Our presence here now is motivated by the overpowering logic that "blood is thicker than water". In other words we are compelled to this idea by the feeling that we have common origin or ancestry.

We in Guam have opportunities and the right to voice our opinion. We also have the right to send our own representative (not to be confused with a resident commissioner or territorial delegate translation.) to Washington whereby he can present problems before the U. S. Congress which the people of Guam deem necessary.

T. OOKA (GL): continued: But your voice here is, unlike Guam, limited. The applause however, which have been manifested here convince us that the people wills unifications. Any representative in this hall who contradicts the majorities will, is not representing the public but his own private good.

O.T. BORJA: Is there anyone here who would like to ask question or to take the floor?

F.S. PANGELINAN: Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: Mr. Frank Pangolinan.

F.S. PANGELINAN: It is indeed a great pleasure and privilege to sit here to listen to some of the splendid remarks made by the fine gentlemen who compose this conference. I, for one, is extremely gratified that the representatives of Guam should find time to come here to discuss with us the merits and demerits of unification. I was a member of that committee which reported the desire of the people of Saipan to be incorporated with the Territory of Guam. I believe the report indicated that 63.8 percent are pro-unification. I think you have heard all the wonderful remarks and I have nothing more to add.

DR. KAIPAT: Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: Dr. Kaipat is recognized.

DR. KAIPAT: I must confess that originally I was opposed to unifying Saipan with the rest of the Marianas Islands, but I felt that representatives from Guam should be invited or be given the opportunity to expound the pros and cons of unification. I was a member of that committee which invited you. Yesterday, it was my feeling and reaction that the pros and cons for the unification of the Marianas were divided equally. But my observation now is that 100 percent of the people desire unification. Those who originally opposed unification have changed their position, because they have been made to understand more on the subject. I admit that prior to yesterday I did not understand much, but now I have been enlightened (applause). The people also, I am sure, have been given considerable information, and it is from this information that they have manifested their desire. Yesterday, I supported Mr. Elias Sablan; this morning I was on the side of Mr. William Reyes, but right now I am with the majority for unification. Now let's try to be united and be one under the flag of the United States of America.

O.T. BORJA: Is there here any one who wish to be recognized?

V.D. SABLAN: Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: Mr. V. D. Sablan.

V.D. SABLAN: There was an article in the paper (Guam Daily News) that three members of this legislature abstained when the voting on Resolution-Invitation (Resolution #2) was before the floor. I want to emphasize, this gentlemen, that we were not opposed to your coming here. But because we feel that we do not have the proper facilities to accommodate you. I do not know why Mr. Cruz release such information to the News. The abstention should not be interpreted as opposing the invitation.

J.R. CRUZ: Point of order, Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: State your point of order, Mr. Cruz.

JOE R. CRUZ: I would like to clarify the statement of Mr. V.D. Sablan. I do not know what gentlemen released that information to the Daily News, however, the information that appeared in the paper were facts and no one should challenge or quarrel with it.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: The chair recognizes Mr. Ooka.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Elias Sablan I would like to direct a few question to you. Yesterday you submitted a letter from the Naval Administrator which stated that the United States Government does not support the discussion of these subjects. I would like to know then what portion of Resolution 367 was not favored by the United States Government. I would like to take that information back with me to Guam.

ELIAS SABLAN: It would probably takes a few days before that information could be made available.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Mr. E. Sablan, I would stay here for four days if I can be assured that this information which I have requested can be made available to us.

ELIAS SABLAN: Your request has been brought up to the authorities. I would like this information clarified and I don't care whether the information is from a Commander or an Admiral. My next question Mr. Sablan, Is David M. Sablan who is in Guam your son?

ELIAS SABLAN: YES.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Is Dave Sablan a citizen of the United States.

ELIAS SABLAN: YES.

T.C. OOKA (GL): Have you ask Dave whether he likes being an American?

ELIAS SABLAN: I would like to make one general statement. Dave Sablan is different from the Sablan who is a congressman.

T.C. OOKA (GL): I am not through, I am not finish. What I want to know is whether being an American citizen is good for Dave. If it is good for Dave, then it is good for the rest of the people of Saipan. If he says that it is not good I'm sure we can find means whereby we can take care of that matter. But if it is good for Dave, ~~I should think that it should be good for Dave.~~ I should think that it should be good enough for the people here. "What is good for the goose is good for the gander."

W.S. REYES: Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA: Mr. Reyes.

W. S. REYES: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thought for a moment that I was not going to say anymore. I would like to clarify one statement made by Mr. Ooka that it is not the people of Guam who desire unification, but I do know that the people of Guam has interest in this unification. I do know also that a resolution was transmitted to the Congress of the U. S., and the people of Saipan were not officially or legally consulted. This is one prove that the people of Guam are overly enthusiastic and interested in this movement. A resolution was also



W. REYES con't.: It is my hope that, that resolutions will not be transmitted unless it is ratified by the Saipan Legislature. And I do hope every word in that proposed resolution be scrutinized by the Saipan Legislature in as much as it is directly affecting the interest of the people of Saipan. That is my humble request.

T. C. OOKA (GL): Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: Mr. Ooka.

T. C. OOKA (GL): I have already said time and again that I came here not to fulfil the desire of the people of Guam but to seek possibilities whereby the interest and welfare of Saipan can be promoted. I was not directly commissioned by the people of Guam to seek their interest here. I was appointed as a member of the Committee in response to the manifestation which the people of Saipan have indicated; namely their desire to be integrated and incorporated within the governmental of the Territory of Guam. Does this seem, in your opinion, that it is the interest of the people of Guam I am promoting here? I am here in response to the invitation which the Saipan Legislature extended to us.

A. PALACIOS: Mr. Chairman.

O. BORJA: The chair recognizes Mr. A. Palacios.

A. PALACIOS: In response to the committee report, we have adopted a resolution inviting the Guam Legislature to come here to assist us in the unification efforts. Resolution 367, as adopted by the Fourth Guam Legislature, was merely paving a way for the people of Saipan, and the rest of the Marianas, for that matter, to develop themselves and exploit their capabilities and resources. The intention as manifested in that resolution was merely to provide guidance for us who are relatively inexperience in the channel and procedure of government. It is clear to us now that the majority of the people want to be unified with Guam, and not to be independent as has been suggested. It is my sincere belief that under the framework of unification, the people of Saipan will achieve or have the opportunity to prosper and to be politically semi-self-determined. I would support 100 percent the unification of Saipan under the governmental framework of the Territory of Guam. (applause).

A. DIAZ: Many thanks to you wonderful audience. I'm also extending my appreciation to those were voted for me. I was not voted because of the governor, but because the people of Saipan wanted me to sit in this hall, I was voted for the public and to defend the rights and interest of the people. This request to unite the Marianas has been long in the making.

When Admiral Radford came here and we had a meeting at the Beach Club, he asked the opinion of the Saipanese Congress to be united with the people of Guam because we are of the same race, and the same Marianas.

**A. DIAZ:**

I for one, have been a member of this congress since its creation, and I have never been denied a seat in this hall by the voters. I do know and I am in the position to know that there are many proposals and recommendations offered and submitted that would benefit the people of Saipan. However, this congress refused to accept the benefits offered them. Now that we are here face to face in this hall, this has turned into a house of trouble and conflict. We are here to debate and to show the public which side is right. Many of the congressmen here are afraid to talk and speak their minds because they are afraid of the governor. In this hall there are many employees of the government and they are afraid that they might be dismissed from their employment. Any one who has been voted by the public and who refused to serve the public should resign himself. That is the law of a land as well as this congress. When they took their oath. Many of these congressmen are only congressmen by name, but in reality they do not represent the people. They are afraid that they might be reprimanded by the Governor. I for one is the least of all educated, however, when it comes to speaking our vernacular I challenge anyone. There are many here who wouldn't say anything that might be embarrassing, even if it's the truth, but I am not afraid to say that once a man is a thief, he is always a thief. And I'm not afraid to reveal this. (after and applaud)

I will die for the welfare of the Public. I am not elected because the governor likes me, but because I worked for the interest and welfare of the people. For these reasons, that I have always been elected. (laughter and applaud)  
I am saying these and even if the governor should hear me, I am not afraid and I could not care less. I am appealing to the Guam Legislature to assist us on this matter. Some of these congressmen do not care about the public good, but for me "I don't care to die" for the welfare of the people of Saipan. (laughter and applause). What we want here is not to expel the Navy from Saipan and I am sure that this is not the intention or desire of the Congress of Guam. But at least they should give us our rights. For many years I have been fighting for these rights in this hall. Ladies and gentlemen. I shall stand before anyone to defend my rights, the people's right and for the betterment of our island. At this time I am respectfully appealing to the Guam Legislature to make possible a more freedom of migration to Guam. Why? Because the people from Guam, with financial capability, could come here and establish better business with our people, thus, our economy will expand favorably. It is for our rights, and freedom opportunity that I am fighting for.

**O.T. BORJA:**

There are several letters from the various District Commissioners asking several questions directed to the Committee here of the Fifth Guam Legislature.

**J.F. SABLAN:**

Is there anyone of these Commissioners who wish to ask specific questions? As I believe most of your questions in your letter have already been answered.

**COMMISSIONER I. TUDELA:** Most of my questions has been answered.

**J.B. BLANCO:**

From the inception, when the proposal to unify the Marianas Islands under the governmental framework of the Territory of Guam, was only being rumored there have been considerable misapprehensions and doubts as to the consequence should the proposed integration become a reality. Among these misapprehensions are: whether under the unification setup the people of Saipan will be subjugated or enslaved by the people of Guam whose culture and development is manifestly more advanced than that of the Saipanese.

J.B. BLANCO: continued:

It is my intention to rise here in order that some of these misapprehensions can be elucidated. I feel confident that many points and doubts have been clarified and the people now are generally satisfied.

I was in the same category as the majority of the people, and as the result of the additional information and the discussion which have been submitted and heard before this hall, the people as well as myself, are now in favor of unification.

W. S. REYES:

Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA:

The Chair recognizes Mr. Reyes.

W. S. REYES:

I would like to make a motion now Mr. Chairman. I move that any resolution, bill, or any documents initiated by the Guam Legislature, relative to the incorporation of the Islands in the Marianas should be ratified by the Saipan Legislature prior to its adoption and its transmittal to the U. N. or other agency.

O.T. BORJA:

Is there any second to the motion? There being none, the motion failed.

A. S. PALACIOS:

Mr. Chairman.

O. T. BORJA:

Mr. A. Palacios

A. S. PALACIOS:

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we should discuss further the motion of Mr. William Reyes.

JOE R. CRUZ:

Mr. Chairman, objection, on the grounds that the motion made by Mr. Reyes was not seconded and therefore, the motion is dead.

O.T. BORJA:

Objection sustained.

I would like to clarify further that our conference here is to obtain information only and not to adopt anything.

J.T. SABLAN (GL):

Mr. Chairman.

O.T. BORJA:

MR. JAMES SABLAN.

J.T. SABLAN (GL):

I am glad that you people felt that way, since I do not want for you to adopt or expedite any action that you have not yet study.

O.T. BORJA:

Is there any other questions to be asked in connection with unification?

JOE R. CRUZ:

At this time, will the Chairman please permit me to make a motion. I would like to ask the members of the Saipan Legislature who favor or oppose the Marianas Unification.

O.T. BORJA:

It is my regrets to denied Mr. Cruz's motion, on the ground that first, this matter should be handled through first, second and third readings. We will handle this matter on our next session.

JOE R. CRUZ:

Mr. Chairman, I thank you. But I would like to remaind every one here that the discussion of the Marianas in this house has been discussed for a long time.

O.T. BORJA:

It is now 5:30 p. m. and I declared our session-conference adjourned until such time when each one of you members will be notified. (applaus)

C O P Y:

EXHIBIT "A"

Mr. Olympio T. Borja  
Speaker, Saipan Legislature  
Saipan, Mariana Islands

RHM:or  
5860  
Ser 992  
AUG 26 1959

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Reference is made to Resolution Number 2 of the Twelfth Saipan Legislature passed 13 August 1959 and dated 17 August 1959.

The Naval Administrator has been requested to inform the Saipan Legislature that the United States Government does not officially support the subject being discussed.

Yours truly,

/s/ Ralph H. Mortensen  
RALPH H. MORTENSEN  
Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve  
Naval Administrator  
Saipan District

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY:

/s/ A. L. Steele  
A. L. STEELE, LCDR, USN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

C O P Y

JFH:rec  
5860  
Ser: 1146  
9 OCT 1959

From: Naval Administrator, U. S. Naval Administration Unit, Navy #935  
To: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Unification of Marianas Islands; report and comment on

Ref: (a) CNO msg 052054Z of October 1959 (NOIAL)

- Encl: (1) Resolution No. 367 of the Fourth Guam Legislature  
(2) Resolution No. 2 of Twelfth Saipan Legislature  
(3) Minutes of the Conference of the Saipan Legislature and the select committee on Saipan Mission, Fifth Guam Legislature, relative to the Unification of the Marianas Islands  
(4) Resolution No. 7 of Twelfth Saipan Legislature

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) represent action taken by the Legislatures of the territory of Guam and the Municipality of Saipan relating to unification of the Marianas and are forwarded as requested by reference (a).

2. The Naval Administrator does not know the percentages of Saipanese and Guamanians in favor of unification and questions the accuracy of the figure of 63.8% (Saipanese) reported on page 7 of enclosure (3). However, the Naval Administrator feels that many Saipanese are inclined to favor unification for two reasons: (1) they believe that unification will result in a minimum wage of \$1.00 per hour, vice the present minimum Saipan wage of \$0.37 cents per hour, and, (2) they believe that unification will mean United States citizenship for the Saipanese people. The Naval Administrator feels that the popular appeal of these two reasons should not be underestimated, and that for many people, such reasons will outweigh any disadvantages accompanying unification.

3. The subject of unification with Guam is not new. Ever since 1951, the problem has been a prominent one in discussions between Guamanians and Saipanese. Over the years, the Naval Administrator has never been requested to take an official position on the question until, on 26 August 1959, he addressed a letter to the Speaker of the Saipan Legislature, (reference the last page of enclosure (3)).

4. During this long period that the subject of unification has been discussed, no official effort, has ever been made to influence the voting of the Saipan Legislature as a whole. However, during informal day-to-day talks between individual members of the Legislature, and the Staff of the Naval Administrator, both the advantages and disadvantages of unification with Guam have been

JPH:rc  
5660

emphasized. The disadvantages have been particularly stressed by members of NAVAD. At the request of several members of the Saipan Legislature, Staff members prepared questions for use by such members at the joint meeting of the Saipan and Guam legislatures. These questions were designed to point out once more the disadvantage of unification. At the invitation of the Saipan Teachers Association, a member of the Staff addressed the association and pointed out the pitfalls and dangers of unification.

5. Enclosure (4) is the freely - expressed opinion of the Twelfth Saipan Congress. It is presumed that the resolution was passed by the Twelfth Saipan Congress after due consideration of the guidance given by NAVAD Saipan Staff members over a period of time.

HEALTH H. HOFFMANN

copy to:  
CINCPCP/PT  
COMNAVSTA/AS/AS