

# PRESS RELEASE



Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

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Marianas

## PRESIDENT JOHNSON ARRIVES IN GUAM

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Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Mar. 21 . . . The blue and white Presidential U.S. Air Force one jet carrying President Johnson and top advisors landed at the new international airport in Guam yesterday. The President and his party were met by local leaders, civilian and military personnel and thousands of Guam residents who swarmed into the terminal and filled it to capacity. Among the civilian and military dignitaries meeting the President were Acting Governor Denver Dickerson, Admiral Horace V. Byrd, High Commissioner William R. Norwood, Deputy High Commissioner Martin P. Mangan, members of the Guam Legislature and other military officers. Accompanying the President on his aircraft were Governor Manuel F. Guerrero of Guam, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara and other Washington officials.

In welcoming the President, Governor Guerrero told the people that while in Washington he had told the President that the people of Guam fully supported his Vietnam policy, a statement which drew loud applause. President Johnson thanked the people for coming out to meet him and said he was pleased with the reception given him. He was hopeful that there was still a possibility of negotiation for honorable peace for the Vietnam war. In his remarks the President also announced that he has

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also reappointed Governor Guerrero to serve another term subject to Senate confirmation. He expressed the hope that Governor Guerrero would be the last Governor appointed by the President because he is hopeful that the Congress will enact the elective Governor's Bill.

About half an hour after the President's arrival an air force jet transport brought in the Vietnam officials, Premier Nguyen Cao Ky and Chief of State Nguyen Van Thieu.

Chief of State Thieu said that the Vietnam and U. S. Governments have been in agreement in many previous conferences and that they have come to a closer association through these conferences. He said: "Together we will win this war, not only against communist aggression, but also against the immemorial enemies of mankind: hunger, disease and ignorance." Thieu said his Government "will spare no efforts to explore all possible avenues which may lead us to a just and honorable peace."

At about 11:30 the President's motorcade left the terminal area for downtown Agana, past the former Trust Territory Compound in Maite through greater Agana, and up to Nimitz Hill. Thousands of people lined the roads to watch the motorcade. Many signs and placards were carried expressing support of President Johnson's Vietnam policy.

The President is presently Headquartered at Nimitz Hill, where the first meeting of the conference is being held.

Because of a heavy schedule and many demands upon the President, he will not be able to accept the invitation extended by the High Commissioner to visit the Trust Territory.

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Palauan Alphonso Oiterong, Trust Territory Guam Dormitory Manager,  
was the first Micronesian to shake hands with President Johnson.

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