

# THE ORGANIC ACT OF GUAM

## Continued from Page 5

direct route. During their term of duty in Guam they shall each be entitled to receive appropriate quarters to be furnished by the United States at established rentals.

(d) All officers and employees of the government of Guam, whose salaries are not fixed by this Act, shall be paid such compensation and shall receive such additional allowances or benefits as may be fixed under the laws of Guam, or, in case they be employees or officers of the department or agency designated by the President under section 3 of this Act, as fixed by or under the rules and regulations of, or applicable to, such department or agency while detailed to serve with the government of Guam. If any official or employee of the government of Guam be a person in the armed forces of the United States, either in active, retired, or reserve status, his employment by the government of Guam and any service thereunder, shall not, in the discretion of the President, operate to affect adversely his rights to duty status, pay, retirement, or other benefits.

(e) Each member of the legislature shall be paid the sum of \$15 for each day that the legislature is in session, regular or special, out of

sums to be appropriated annually by the Congress. All other legislative expense shall be appropriated by, and paid out of funds of, the government of Guam.

Sec. 27. Articles which are the growth, production, or manufacture of Guam coming into any State, Territory, or insular possession of the United States from Guam shall be entered at the several ports of entry free of duty.

Sec. 28(a) The title to all property, real and personal, owned by the United States in Guam, not reserved by the President of the United States within ninety days after the date of enactment of this Act, is hereby placed under the control of the government of Guam, to be administered for the benefit of the people of Guam, and the legislature shall have authority, subject to such limitations as may be imposed upon its acts by this Act or subsequent Act of the Congress, to legislate with respect to such property, real and personal, in such manner as it may deem desirable.

(b) All other property, real and personal, owned by the United States in Guam, not reserved by the President of the United States within ninety days after the date of enactment of this Act, is hereby placed under the control of the government of Guam, to be administered for the benefit of the people of Guam, and the legisla-

ture shall have authority, subject to such limitations as may be imposed upon its acts by this Act or subsequent Act of the Congress, to legislate with respect to such property, real and personal, in such a manner as it may deem desirable.

(c) All property owned by the United States in Guam, the title to which is not transferred to the government of Guam by subsection (a) hereof, or which is not placed under the control of the government of Guam by subsection (b) hereof, is transferred to the administrative supervision of the head of the department or agency designated by the President under section 3 of this Act, except as the President may from time to time otherwise prescribe: Provided, That the head of such department or agency shall be authorized to lease or to sell, on such terms as he may deem in the public interest, any property, real and personal, of the United States under his administrative supervision in Guam not needed for public purposes.

Section 29(a) Subject to the laws of Guam, the Governor shall establish, maintain, and operate public health services in Guam, including hospitals, dispensaries, and quarantine stations, at such places in Guam as may be necessary, and he shall promulgate quarantine and sanitary regulations for the protection of Guam

against the importation and spread of disease.

(b) The Governor shall provide an adequate public educational system of Guam, and to that end shall establish, maintain, and operate public schools at such places in Guam as may be necessary.

Sec. 30. All customs duties and Federal income taxes derived from Guam, the proceeds of all taxes collected under the internal-revenue laws of the United States on articles produced in Guam and transported to the United States, its Territories, or possessions, or consumed in Guam, and the proceeds of any other taxes which may be levied by the Congress on the inhabitants of Guam, and all quarantine, passport, immigration, and naturalization fees collected in Guam shall be covered into the treasury of Guam and held in account for the government of Guam, and shall be expended for the benefit and government of Guam in accordance with the annual budgets.

Sec. 31. The income-tax laws in force in the United States of America and those which may hereafter be enacted shall be held to be likewise in force in Guam.

Sec. 32. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated annually by the Congress of the United States such sums as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out the provisions and

purposes of this Act.

Sec. 33. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting the authority of the President to designate parts of Guam as naval or military reservations, nor to restrict his authority to treat Guam as a closed port with respect to the vessels and aircraft of foreign nations.

Sec. 34. Upon the 21st day of July 1950, the anniversary of the liberation of the island of Guam by the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II, the authority and powers conferred by this Act shall come into force. However, the President is authorized, for a period not to exceed one year from the date of enactment of this Act, to continue the administration of Guam in all or in some respects as provided by law, Executive order, or local regulation in force on the date of enactment of this Act. The President may, in his discretion, place in operation all or some of the provisions of this Act impracticable before the expiration of the period of one year.

Approved August 1, 1950.

Signed: Speaker of the House of Representatives

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate

Approved August 1, 1950 by Harry S. Truman

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# Pacific Daily News

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VOL. 31 NO. 182 HAGATNA, GUAM, AUGUST 1, 2000

HAGA ADAL, IT'S TUESDAY

75¢ on Guam

## LIFESTYLE

### Orchestral melodies

The Long Island Youth Orchestra's program tonight will include selections from Tchaikovsky, Gershwin and Berlioz, as the teens make a stop on Guam during their world tour.

▲ See story, Page 37



## SPORTS

### Meet the 10 finalists

Any surprises? Did you expect one of them to make it? This year, for the first time, the Pacific Daily News is listing the 10 finalists for the fourth annual Guam National Olympic Committee/Bank of Guam Scholar Athlete Banquet, which is scheduled to start at 5:30 p.m. on Friday at the Hilton Guam.

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▲ Fijian rebels appear in court

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## TOMORROW

Eating smart when dining out

# First lady named in lawsuit

## Doctor seeks \$8M from Gutierrez, Family Violence Task Force

By Tanya M.C. Mendiola

Pacific Daily News

A Navy commander is suing first lady Geri Gutierrez for \$8 million for defamation of character, after she allegedly wrote a letter questioning his expertise as a psychiatrist.

The civil lawsuit was filed June 23 in Superior Court by Dr. William J. Hocter, a Navy commander, licensed forensic psychiatrist and medical doctor, and by his wife, Annette Hocter, against Gutierrez and the Family Violence Task Force. The suit cites statements Gutierrez wrote in a letter to Capt. Jerald Ulmer,

Naval Hospital commanding officer, on behalf of the task force, court documents said.

The letter was written in January after Dr. Hocter, who also is employed at the Pacific Area Counseling Network, testified as an expert witness in the Osmundo Sangalang murder trial, court documents said.

Osmundo Sangalang was convicted in February for the July 1999 shooting deaths of his wife, Elaine Sangalang, and her friend, Jun Cabana Velasco.

Dr. Hocter took the witness stand and reported his results of a forensic psychiatric evaluation on Osmundo Sangalang. Dr. Hocter said

the two victims provoked Sangalang to shoot them because the "victims' behavior drove (Osmundo Sangalang) crazy," court documents said.

Gutierrez's letter, according to court documents, said, "Comments made by Dr. Hocter in his report to the

▲ See Lawsuit, Page 4

## 50 years of Organic Act marked

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▲ Organic Act celebration recalls '50s

▲ '50s music, dance and celebration

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▲ The complete text of the Organic Act

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R. D. Golding/For Pacific Daily News

**Sock-hop:** Performers in the "50 Years of the Organic Act" production sing and dance to songs from the '50s during rehearsals yesterday at the University of Guam field house. A celebration of the document's enactment will be held at the field house today.



## Cell phone firm files for bankruptcy

By Steve Limtiaco

Pacific Daily News

One of Guam's cellular telephone companies filed for bankruptcy protection, and court documents state the company's largest debt is to Guam Telephone Authority, which is owed more than \$1 million.

Futuristic Systems, which resells cellular service provided by the government-run telephone authority, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy June 30, documents state.

But the company might come out of Chapter 11 soon, if it can resolve contract disagreements with the telephone

▲ See Futuristic, Page 4

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▲ Many not paying 911 surcharge

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▲ GTA moves customer service office

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▲ Phone rate increase not likely

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## School year 2000-01 kicks off

A brand-new school year begins tomorrow for thousands of Guam children, and there are steps parents can take



Back-to-school

to ensure road safety and protection from disease for their children.

### INSIDE

▲ Traffic safety on the first day of school.

▲ Safety tips for drivers.

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▲ Immunizations are a must for kids.

▲ What shots do your children need?

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Malesso bingo banner 8/1 - Black

## GOP unites for convention



Republicans are raising the curtain on George W. Bush's convention with opening-night appeals to women, minorities and moderates by the Texas governor's wife, Laura, and retired Gen. Colin Powell, one of the GOP's biggest stars.

"We're on our way to Philadelphia and we're on our way to victory!" Bush exulted at an Ohio rally on a bus trip to the Republican National Convention.

▲ See story, Page 14

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# Should the Organic Act be rewritten?

## Christina Illarmo

*For Pacific Daily News*

Some Guam residents are concerned that the Organic Act is out of date, according to an informal survey taken by the Pacific Daily News.

The act became law 50 years ago today, giving Guam residents a civil government and granting Chamorros U.S. citizenship.

Many residents said the congressional legislation should be updated.

"I think it should be rewritten to fit our times today in the 21st century," said Yigo resident Doriann Santos, a teacher at Guam High School. "It should fit the way we live today, not in the '50s."

Suzie Peredo, a real-estate agent from Barrigada, said the Organic Act should be revamped.

"I feel the Organic Act should be rewritten because there are many flaws," Peredo said. "What was implemented 50 years ago worked for the island then, but not for today."

Some Guam residents said that along with a revised Organic Act, the island needs a constitution.

"Guam should have its own constitution and be an integral part of the U.S.," said Navy Cmdr. Mike Dodge of Santa Rita. "Right now, the Organic Act is one way. Congress enacted it and Congress can repeal it. We need a say in our destiny."

Amy Martin of Yigo also said Guam should have its own



"I think so. They should take a look at that. It's been 50 years."

**Joseph Alcaivo**  
Yigo



"Not actually rewritten, but updated, to meet the needs of Guam's current society."

**Tony Yatar**  
Barrigada

constitution.

"I think Guam is ready for a constitution," she said. "Guam has changed quite a bit."



"Yes, it needs to adapt to the new changes the island is facing."

**Ron Espina**  
Dededo



"Yes. I think Guam is ready for a constitution. Guam has changed quite a bit."

**Amy Martin**  
Yigo

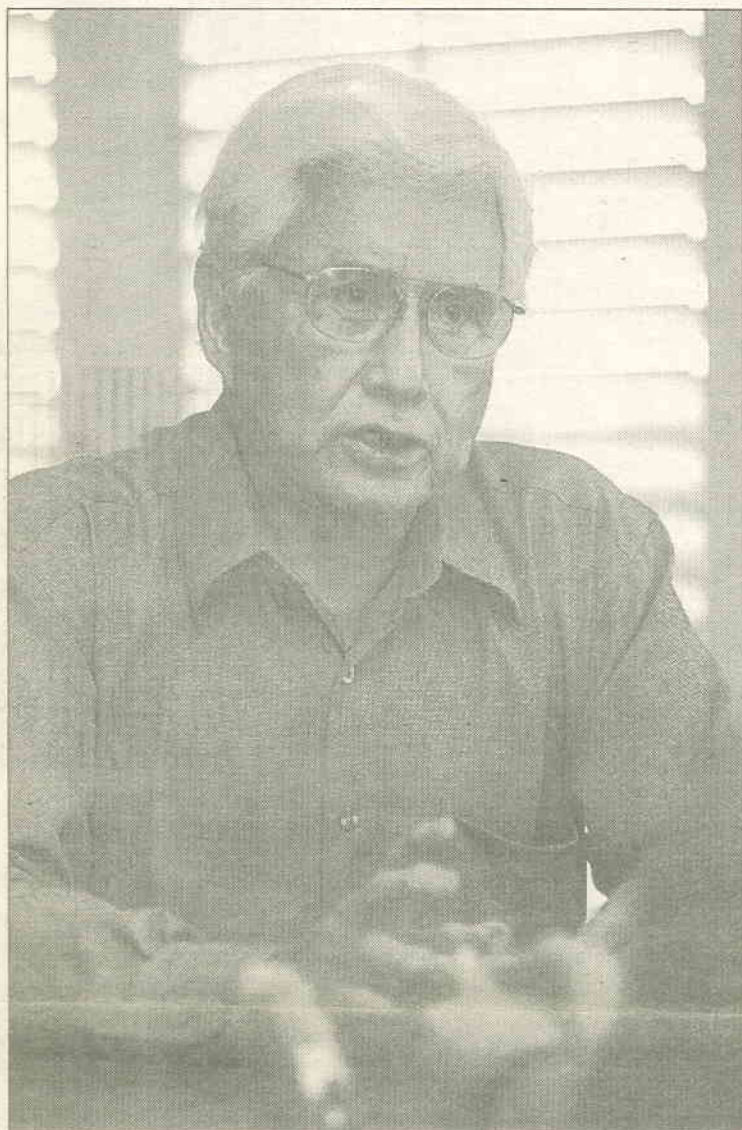
Some said the Organic Act needs no changes.

"I don't know much about it, but so far, it's been good," said Nelie Dizon of Mangilao. "So why fix it?"



# Act of defiance led to citizenship

## Guam Congress walkout woke world to Chamorros' plight



Ed Crisostomo/Pacific Daily News

**Witness:** Former Speaker Carlos Taitano talks about the origins of the Organic Act while at the Hilton yesterday. He was the only Chamorro present at the signing of the act, he said.

By Victoria Leon Guerrero  
For Pacific Daily News

More than 50 years ago, Carlos Taitano knew the "aristocratic" government on Guam had to come to an end.

Taitano, who was then a member of the Guam Congress, engineered and helped to publicize the Guam Congress Revolt of March 5, 1949. The revolt, a walkout by members of the congress's lower house, became a turning point in Guam's autonomy, and eventually led to the government the island has today.

The walkout helped to push forward the signing of Guam's Organic Act on Aug. 1, 1950.

Taitano and other island leaders will be honored at a 50th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony Aug. 1 at the University of Guam field house. Organizers said the commemoration festivities are a celebration of the island's progress since President Harry S. Truman signed the Organic Act, giving the people of Guam U.S. citizenship and beginning a half-century of civil rule.

Fifty years ago, the Chamorro people had absolutely no control over the island, Taitano said, and now they can elect their own governor.

For more than 300 years, Guam was controlled by martial law. Military leaders from Spain, Japan and the United States dictated the governance of the island.

The United States gained control of Guam in 1898 and ruled the island until 1941, when the Japanese Imperial Army took over for more than two years during World War II.

### HISTORY

▲ The Organic Act is a form of constitution drafted by the United States Congress. Guam's Organic Act was signed into law Aug. 1, 1950 by President Harry S. Truman. The act gave the people of Guam U.S. citizenship and a bill of rights and laws, and created Guam's civil government.

The U.S. regained control in 1944.

"It was an autocracy within American democracy," Taitano said. Although Guam was a territory of the United States, Taitano said, it did not receive the same privileges as other territories.

The Chamorro people had no say in the government of their island. There was a Guam Congress, Taitano said, but it acted only as an advisory council to the naval governor, who made the island's laws.

Some of the laws included a ban on whistling, because it disturbed the governor's wife, and a limit on ringing church bells at certain times, because they bothered military personnel.

Also, the Chamorros were only educated up to the ninth grade.

"They were poorly educated, poorly trained and not U.S. citizens," Taitano said.

Taitano, who left the island to further his education in Hawaii, realized the poor treatment his people were receiving and wanted to make a difference. When he returned to Guam, he was elected into the Guam Congress and began his movement for freedom.

He said he recognized that in order for the island to take a stand, its people had to gain international attention.

On March 5, 1949, Taitano and other members of the congress's lower house took that stand, and began the end of a half-century struggle for U.S. citizenship.

Taitano told members of the Associated Press and United Press International of the walkout and, within 24 hours, news of the revolt spread like wildfire.

"The whole nation was aroused," Taitano said. "They compared the Guam revolt to the Boston Tea Party."

At the time, a cold war between the United States and the Soviet Union was developing and the strike became a diplomatic embarrassment for America, Taitano said.

Six months later, Truman replaced Guam's naval governor with a civilian governor, and the U.S. Congress began drafting the Organic Act.

"Although the Organic Act was an imperfect document, self-respect and dignity were given back to the people of Guam," Taitano said. "After 50 years of nothing, it was something."



# Island census nearing completion, officials say

By Dionesis Tamondong  
Pacific Daily News

The island population is just about counted.

Census officials are wrapping up their difficult task of roaming the streets, counting heads and gathering information from households.

"We are about 90 percent done with the total workload," said

Roland Villaverde, assistant manager of field operations. "Operations have been going smoothly."

Local census officials said they are not allowed to release any information from their findings until next year, after it is reviewed by mainland census officials and the federal government.

Villaverde said his staff is at the final stages of its fact-finding mis-

### FOR MORE INFO

▲ Call Guam Census 2000 at 648-2000.

sion.

About a hundred enumerators are still roaming the island tracking down residents who have not completed their census forms.

Inside the census headquarters in Tamuning, staffers are processing loads of data to be sent in August to the national processing center in Indiana.

The only problem his staff has encountered, Villaverde said, is adapting to new machines used to process the information. In general, local residents have been cooperative with visiting enumerators.

Villaverde said.

Every ten years, the Census Bureau counts the country's population.

Local residents stand to benefit from the census, because funding for federal programs — educational grants, welfare programs, and natural disaster assistance — is usually based on information gathered from the census.

## Pacific Daily News

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Pacific Daily News' business hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, and closed Sunday. To call, dial 477-9711, then the extension number when asked.

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Subscription rates on Page 6.

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9711, ext. 404.



NEWS

arrest man  
bumping incident

Arrested Seich Seichiro of Piti do for allegedly 34-year-old Japanese tourist two days ago, said Fernandez. Guam Police spokesman. The arrested July 30 at about 10 p.m. in Tumon as the victim and were walking near Tumon and Ypao Beach when allegedly bumped into a woman who felt a sharp pain in her back and saw she had a blood stain. Fernandez said. Piti and near the Archbishop Flores monument in Piti said he stabbed the woman because he was drunk, said. The woman was taken to Memorial Hospital where she was treated. Pison was charged with possession of a weapon in the commission of a felony, attempted aggravated assault. He was released and confined, Fernandez said.

outage set  
an, Piti

Power Authority has a power outage in Asan tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. affecting the 7-Eleven store and the Piti area. There also will be interruptions of power at 3 p.m. affecting Route 1 in Asan and Piti II Market. Crews are working on the lines.

Organic Act fete  
GPD hours

The Guam Police Department Identification section will be open from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in observance of the Organic Act, said Sgt. Ray. The Guam Police Department is sponsoring the event.

Pacific Daily News

Organic Act  
document signing  
open, what's not  
today

- Schools: closed.
- All post office branches: open.
- Government of Guam offices: open.
- Bank: open.
- Retail shops and department stores: open.
- Pacific Daily News: open.
- Guam Mass Transit Authority operations: regular schedule.

the record

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# Organic Act symposium

## Former leaders, schoolchildren discuss impact of document

By Theresa Merto

Pacific Daily News

Elyse Bais thinks a lot about the right to vote — something she'll be able to do in a mere 11 years.

The 7-year-old was one of the winners of the "Organic Act, Pride in Our Progress" essay contest. Yesterday, she read her winning entry in front of dozens of people who gathered at a conference on the Organic Act.

"The people of Guam have come a long way because of the Organic Act of Guam. Today, I see signs on the roadsides asking us to vote for our own governor, congressman, and senators," Bais said in her essay. "We have a choice on who should win and that's good, because I like some of them."

The conference was held at the University of Guam's College of Arts and Sciences lecture hall. Guest speakers discussed the Organic Act and how it came to be.

"We wanted to hold a serious, academic symposium on the subject. This gives the people a chance to reflect on history," said Tyrone Taitano, executive director of the Organic Act Task Force. "The conference was part of a series of events leading to commemorating and celebrating 50 years of progress on island."

The conference was hosted by the Organic Act Task Force and the University of Guam. Several dignitaries, on island to take part in the commemoration of the act, were guest speakers at the conference.

Former Speaker Carlos Taitano told of a walkout by members of Guam Congress' lower house, which helped push forward the signing of the Organic Act Aug. 1, 1950.



R. D. Golding/For Pacific Daily News

**Academic conference:** Former Guam Gov. Carlton Skinner receives a round of applause during his speech at a conference yesterday on the Organic Act. The symposium was held in the College of Arts and Sciences lecture hall at the University of Guam.

"The people of Guam have come a long way because of the Organic Act of Guam."

Elyse Bais  
essay winner

ing of the Organic Act Aug. 1, 1950.

Also at the presentation was former Gov. Bill Daniels, invited to speak by master of ceremonies Ron McNinch, a professor at the university. Daniels gave his recollections of life on Guam.

"It is a very sentimental journey to come back to Guam," Daniels said. "I love Guam, and I love the people."

Tanisha Ann Franquez, who graduated from George Washington High School this year, won the essay contest for the secondary level.

el.

"This is the first essay contest I have ever won; I have entered many," Franquez said with a smile. She said that she touched on several topics in her essay, including U.S. citizenship and the right to vote.

"Although Guamanians do not vote for the President of the United States of America, they have the chance to make an effort and difference to choose leaders that will lead the island into a prosperous and determined new era," Franquez said in her essay. "This opportunity gives

### ORGANIC ACT

▲ The Organic Act of Guam was drafted by the United States Congress and signed into law Aug. 1, 1950, by President Harry S. Truman. The act gave the people of Guam U.S. citizenship and a bill of rights and laws, and created a civil government.

the people of the island a more prestigious outlook on their island, knowing that their signature has made a difference in the future of the island."

Franquez said she was honored to be a part of the conference.

"It is a pleasure to be in this lecture hall and meet all these people who have made a difference," Franquez said.

## 1950s prices, displays, music at field house

By Theresa Merto  
Pacific Daily News

Guam will blast to the past today.

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Organic Act of Guam, a 1950s party will be held at 3:30 p.m. today at the University of Guam field house.

The Organic Act of Guam was drafted by the United States Congress, and signed into law Aug. 1, 1950. It sets the framework for laws and government on Guam.

At the celebration, there will be hot dogs for 10 cents and soda for 5 cents, said Tyrone Taitano, executive director, Organic Act Task Force.

He said the task force was able to use 1950s prices because of business donations. All the proceeds of the celebration will go to the Alec Shelter for abused children, Taitano said.

### ORGANIC ACT CELEBRATION

▲ A 50s-style party will be held today at 3:30 p.m. at the University of Guam field house. There will be 1950s prices for food, including hot dogs for 10 cents and soda for 5 cents.

▲ A commemoration ceremony will follow at 6:30 p.m. at the field house. Admission is free.

Source: Tyrone Taitano, executive director, Organic Act Task Force.

In addition to food booths, there will be a variety of displays at the event.

"There will be a display of vintage cars and old juke boxes," said Taitano. "There will also be a display by the Guam Museum, such as documents and pictures bearing on the last 50 years."

A commemorative ceremony will be held 6:30 p.m. at the same location.

"There will be speeches by the governor and the former governors, lots of music, dancing and a video presentation," Taitano said.

Taitano added that there also will be a big musical finale.

"It is open to the public and admission is free," Taitano said. "It will be good for the whole family."

James Bermudes, 21, of Malojloj, and Robert Castaneda, 18,



of Santa Rita volunteered their time to prepare for today's festivities.

"We've been basically cleaning up the field house, so it is all good to go for the celebration," Bermudes said.

He said he was looking forward to meeting the former governors and being able to buy a hot dog for 10 cents.

"I'm glad I volunteered my time for this historic event," Bermudes said. "It's going to be a lot of fun."



# US argues: 'Constitution has limited application on Guam'

By Mar-Vic Cagurangan  
For Variety

THE U.S. Constitution has limited application on unincorporated territories such as Guam, according to the U.S. government, citing Supreme Court precedent rulings that interpreted the constitutional provision on territories.

The limited applicability of the Constitution on Guam was among the arguments raised by Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart F. Delery in seeking the dismissal of the lawsuit filed by former employee Guam Public Defender Dustin O'Brien in a New York federal court.

Now a New York resident, O'Brien has challenged the validity of the Organic Act and the local governor's authority to collect taxes from U.S. citizens residing on Guam in a lawsuit that tackled multilayered issues.

## Misplaced theories



Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart F. Delery, in seeking the dismissal of the lawsuit filed by former employee Guam Public Defender Dustin O'Brien in a New York federal court, said the U.S. Constitution has limited application on unincorporated territories such as Guam. (AP Photo)

In seeking the dismissal of the lawsuit, Delery said O'Brien relied largely on "misplaced or invalid constitutional theories."

Delery argued that "under the Territories Clause of the Constitution, Congress may treat Guam differently from

states so long as there is a rational basis for its actions."

"Because binding Supreme Court precedent establishes that the Constitution has limited application in unincorporated territories such as Guam, [O'Brien] has not and cannot allege that the structural constitutional provisions he raises have been extended in the Organic Act of Guam," Delery said.

## New Yorker

Noting that O'Brien lived on Guam for 292 days in 2011, Delery also argued that the plaintiff lacks a "prudential standing to raise his structural claims regarding the constitutional rights of Guam residents," considering he is no longer a resident of Guam.

"[O'Brien] simply has not alleged that he has been or is likely to be injured in any way by the inability to exercise a constitutional right as a citizen and resident of New

York," Delery said.

## Moot

O'Brien's lawsuit stemmed from his tax refund claim while he was a Guam resident.

Delery said the lawsuit is moot because O'Brien has since received his tax refund in the amount of \$492.13 with interest.

"Furthermore, [O'Brien] states he is a permanent citizen and resident of New York, with no intention to return to and earn income on Guam," Delery said. "Accordingly, he is no longer subject to the authority that created the injury which gave rise to this suit in the first place, and there is no reasonable expectation that the alleged violation will recur."

Delery said O'Brien failed to explain "how, as a New York resident with no plans to return to Guam, an order invalidating the Organic Act of Guam would affect him in any legally cognizable way."

# Mayors support bill to raise gaming tax



Sens. Christopher Duenas and Tony Morrison explain to the Mayors' Council of Guam that village bingo games in churches and senior citizen centers will not be affected by their legislation. (Joy White/Variety)

By Joy White  
joy@mvguam.com  
Variety News Staff

THE Mayors' Council of Guam yesterday expressed support for Sen. Christopher Duenas' bill that seeks to raise the gross receipt tax on gaming establishments from 4 percent to 20 percent.

At yesterday's meeting, the council voted in favor of the motion made by Piti Mayor Ben Gimmaetao expressing support for Bill 19, which is being opposed by the Guam National Olympic Committee.

Council President and former Honolulu Mayor Paul MacKenzie and Mayor of Agaña, Agaña Mayor, also expressed support for the bill.


but offering no program to train young athletes.

Along with Sen. Tony Morrison, Duenas met with the mayors to explain that charity and recreational bingo at senior citizen and community centers will not be affected by Bill 19.


The bill is aimed at licensed gaming facilities, Duenas said.

The funds to be raised from additional tax revenues would be used to improve sports facilities, Duenas told the mayors.

Seniata Mayor Robert Dofman added tourism would also benefit from visiting sports teams who would likely visit more often if Guam had better sports facilities.



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**Ray Tenorio**  
Lieutenant Governor

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Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA) will receive sealed bids for the Modernization of Units at AMP 3 in Agaña until 2:00 pm on Feb. 26, 2013 in the Board Room located at Main office in Sinajana. On Feb. 11, 2013 at 10:00 am, GHURA will conduct a pre-bid conference at GHURA office at GCIC, room 306 in Agaña. Site visits will be arranged by GHURA staff after the pre-bid conference to anyone who desires an onsite visit. All interested bidders are encouraged to attend both the pre-bid conference and the site visit.

Copies of the bidding documents may be purchased by qualified contractors from the GHURA Main Office. A non-refundable deposit of \$55.00 is required for each set of bidding documents. Copies of the bid packet are available at the GHURA Procurement Office starting Jan. 31, 2013 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except on holidays.

A Bid Guarantee in the amount of 5% of the total base bid must accompany each bid, which exceeds \$100,000.00. Bid guarantee shall be a Bid Bond secured by a surety company authorized to do business in Guam and listed in the latest Department of Treasury Circular 570 published in the Federal Register or a permitted by state law a certified check, bank draft, or U.S. Government Bond at par value. If bid security is not submitted with the bid, GHURA shall reject the bid. All Bid Guarantees must be made payable to GHURA. Personal checks will not be accepted. In addition, a Non-Colusive Affidavit must be supplied with each bid that exceeds \$10,000. GHURA reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. Failure to submit a bid properly shall result in rejection of the bid.

For all contracts, which exceed \$100,000, the successful bidder will be required to furnish and pay for satisfactory Performance and Payment bonding for 100% of the contract price. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum of salaries and wages as set forth in the specifications must be paid on this project. The Contractor must not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, or national origin in employment or the provision of services. Restriction Against Contractors Employing Convicted Sex Offenders from Working at Government of Guam Venues. (§5253 of Title 5 Guam Code Annotated).

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At: Michael J. Duenas  
Executive Director



## Our View

## Educate

Decolonization  
commission has a  
big task ahead of it

**T**his is a historic year for people living on Guam. It's significant because 1998 is the 100th anniversary of the U.S. flag flying over Guam.

This is also the year that some Guam voters will be asked to decide on the territory's future political status.

The Commission on Decolonization, which is required to come up with the education campaign to explain the choices, has been given a task it may not be able to accomplish before voters go to the polls this fall.

People have to talk about the proposal among themselves and ask and get answers to their questions.

before voters go to the polls this fall.

The same law that created the commission also set up the requirement for Chamorros to decide whether they want to pursue statehood, free association or independence.

These are complicated issues, and the commission has an enormous education job to do.

First, most people aren't sure why these political options are up for a vote. Island leaders have spent a decade and millions of dollars petitioning Congress for commonwealth status.

People will also want to know a lot more about the pros and cons of statehood, free association and independence before they'll feel comfortable voting for or against those options.

People have seen how the current relationship with the United States works. But they can only guess how other political options will affect the culture, the economy and their families.

An even bigger challenge for the commission will be getting people to agree on who will be allowed to vote on these choices.

Not everyone — including Chamorros and non-Chamorros — is convinced it's legal or even right to conduct a Chamorros-only vote.

The commission will have to contend with these challenges or people won't be satisfied.

The commission's plan to invite residents to join task forces to get the word out is a good starting point.

But education isn't just a quick media blitz. It takes thorough research and presentation of the full range of facts. And it must focus on issues that need discussion and resolution.

Education isn't a one-way street. People have to talk about the proposal among themselves and ask and get answers to their questions.

If we rush the process, people may not be given the time they need to make up their minds.

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## Commission on Decolonization hasn't met

By Leo Babauta

Pacific Daily News

Seven months before it is scheduled to hold a Chamorro-only vote to determine the future political status of Guam, the Commission on Decolonization hasn't met once.

The law that formed the commission, passed by the Legislature in early 1997, mandates that the commission hold a plebiscite with this September's primary election.

Before the plebiscite, the commission has to conduct public information campaigns on three political status options: independence, statehood and free association with the United States.

It hasn't discussed any of those activities yet be-

cause a meeting hasn't been called by the commission's chairman, Gov. Carl Gutierrez.

Gutierrez said he wanted to give Guam's interim status proposal, the 1987 Guam Commonwealth Act, a chance for closure before proceeding with the decolonization commission.

"I vetoed the decolonization commission bill last January because I wanted to give Congress a chance to address our commonwealth bill," Gutierrez said. "Although the congressional process is not complete, there are issues which the decolonization commission needs to address this year. I have directed staff to set up a meeting next month."

A meeting will probably be held in the next couple of weeks, said Leland Bettis, executive director of the Commission on Self-Determination.

## LOCAL

Guam status  
vote may be  
postponed

By Hiroshi Hiyama

Pacific Daily News

The Chamorro-only vote to determine the future political status of Guam might be postponed because officials only now are preparing for the September plebiscite.

The Chamorro Registry Advisory Board held its first meeting last week to prepare for the plebiscite, which will ask voters whether they want independence, free association or statehood in regard to self-determination.

The board is responsible for registering all the names of Chamorros on and off-island, said Elizabeth Blas, deputy director of the Guam Election Commission. The commission provides administrative support to the advisory board, which was created at the end of 1996.

The board, which met last week despite a lack of funding, suggested a budget of \$300,000 and planned to request the amount from the Legislature. But Joseph Mesa, chairman of the Election Commission, said yesterday the budget seems too high for the project and suggested that the board review the budget.

Board members, who had been appointed by the governor last summer, said that they may not be able to prepare the registry in time for the plebiscite, Blas added.

Also before the election, the Commission on Decolonization must conduct a massive education campaign for Chamorro voters to discuss the benefits of the three options in the plebiscite, Mesa said.

However, the decolonization commission hasn't met once yet and it doesn't have an operational budget, said Leland Bettis, executive director Commission on Self-Determination. Bettis said many members of his commission are also on the decolonization commission.

"I am sure they will have a meeting soon," Bettis said.

"Doing (an) election is no problem with us," said Mesa of the Election Commission. He added that he isn't sure the other two groups could be ready for the plebiscite by September.

Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library

Pacific Daily News, Friday, February 13, 1998



# Effect of New Caledonia status on Guam unclear

By Brad Wong

Pacific Daily News

The executive director of Guam's Commission on Decolonization welcomed France's decision to grant a Pacific colony greater freedom, but he said the effect on Guam's political status remains unclear.

On Tuesday, France signed an agreement permitting a 20-year transition toward independence for New Caledonia, the Associated Press reported.

The first vote of the process will take place in December. There will be a second vote on self-determination in 2018.

France gained control of the territory, about 1,115 miles east of Australia, in 1853.

Leland Bettis said yesterday that he had not read the accord but that it looks promising.

"At least France has provided a process for transition and self-determination in New Caledonia," he said.

But it's uncertain if the decision will spark any interest in Washington, D.C., he said.

On an international level, Bettis said there are standards and definitions that would give Guam greater freedom to pursue self-determina-

tion.

"The whole international process gives a moral framework for responsible parties to work," he said. "Again, one would have hoped that the United States would have addressed the moral obligations and would have done what's right."

He pointed to U.S. foreign policy and said the federal government has supported independence for many areas overseas. "But for their own, there seems to be a different standard," he said.

He added that U.S. representatives have told the United Nations that Guam is already self-governing.

Late last month, Puerto Rico's Gov. Pedro Rossello said the United States is "inconsistent" when it calls for more liberty in Cuba but not in his commonwealth.

Puerto Rico also is pushing for a vote for statehood, independence or continuing its commonwealth status.

In the Pacific, the United Nations considers New Caledonia, East Timor and Guam as colonies, according to Bettis.

Guam is one of 17 colonies worldwide, he said.

Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library

JUNE 2, 1998 (3)

# Group scrutinizes applicants for task force vacancies

By Brad Wong

Pacific Daily News

The Commission on Decolonization's task force committee met yesterday to discuss five applicants who want to study and advocate for statehood and independence.

The commission is assembling three task forces to help educate the public about political status options for the island. The free association task force is already full with seven members.

Executive Director Leland Bettis said the names will be given to the committee at its meeting Friday.

Ron Aguon and Ron McNinch have applied to serve on the statehood task force. Tony Pangelinan, Patrick San Nicolas and Maria Teehan have applied to serve on the independence task force.

The statehood task force still needs one member.

Under the law, each group needs seven members and will help the public understand each option prior to the Chamorro self-determination plebiscite.

The vote is scheduled for September, but Bettis said the commission may need additional time to prepare.

## TO VOLUNTEER

▲ For information about serving on the statehood task force, contact Vicky Cruz of the Commission on Decolonization at 472-2829.

At the meeting yesterday, commission member Chris Perez Howard said it's important that people who serve on a task force have a strong relationship with the island and its history and culture.

"If we don't have criteria for ties to Guam, we might as well recruit on the mainland for Chamorro self-determination," he said.

McNinch, who teaches public administration and legal studies at the University of Guam, said he understands the concerns over something he calls the "suitcase" attitude, where people live briefly on the island and then leave.

"That's a legitimate concern. But we've established ties," McNinch said, referring to his life on Guam.

## U.N. can shine light on colonial injustice

I found the article, "Today is the 210th birthday of our lighthouse — the U.S. Constitution," by John S. Unpingco, chief judge of the U.S. District Court of Guam, to be informative, historically accurate and well written (PDN 9-17-99).

What was not voiced, was that the lighthouse does not shine equally for all U.S. citizens.

We, the colonized Chamorro people, are governed by the U.S. Organic Act for Guam wherein only certain provisions of the U.S. Constitution apply. Our political authority is subject to applicable U.S. laws. Of the constitutional provisions not applicable to us are the rights given by the 10th and 11th Amendments that limit federal authority and provide protection for our laws.

We also were not granted the 14th amendment protection of our U.S. citizenship. According to Robert F. Rogers, Ph.D., "In other words, the Congress could still legislatively remove U.S. citizenship from the descendants of present Guamanians (col-

onized Chamorro people) resident on the island.

"This could not happen to U.S. citizens in the 50 states and also not even to U.S. citizens residing in foreign nations and not to the new U.S. citizens in the CNMI where the 14th applies fully."

The unequal treatment of us as U.S. citizens is purposely done. By administrative control, the U.S. government can continue to occupy our lands.

Chamorros, Chamorus, Guamanians, indigenous people or people of Guam, whatever we are called or call ourselves, as the colonized we should be looking forward with anticipation for the decolonization vote under the light of the United Nations. It is

the only lighthouse we, the colonized have. It is our light to equality.

Should the 55 men who decided against revising America's Articles of Confederation in favor of an entirely new constitution be alive on Guam today, I doubt if they would opt to continue living under the Organic Act.

**CHRIS PEREZ HOWARD**  
Chairman, OPI-R

Member, Decolonization Commission

## LOCAL BRIEFS

### Decolonization group to select task force

A Commission on Decolonization committee met yesterday and is making progress on naming members to three task forces, its executive director said.

Leland Bettis said the Committee on Task Force Selection will meet again today at 10 a.m. at the Ricardo I. Borda Governor's complex.

The committee has interviewed 25 to 30 people for positions on the three task forces. He said the potential participants come from a variety of backgrounds, including business and education.

When formed, the groups will become advocates of statehood, free association or independence. The task forces will study the merits of each option and provide information to the public.

"The task forces are the heart of the advocacy process," Bettis said.

The groups also will issue economic impact reports, showing how each option might affect federal and private funding, he said.



# Professor says Guam EPA should be free of politics

■ **Bob Richmond:**  
Pressure may interfere with agency's ability to do its job

By **ADRIENNE LOERZEL**  
Daily News Staff

The Guam Environmental Protection Agency needs to be free from political influence, a University of Guam professor said yesterday.

"The bottom line is EPA has never had the ability to act as an autonomous agency," Marine Lab Professor Bob Richmond said. "As we know on this island, everything comes back to politics one way or the other."

During the protection agency's roundtable discussion yesterday, Richmond told officials he is concerned politics may interfere with the agency's ability to do its job.

Richmond said the agency's staff is knowledgeable and professional, but may feel political pressure sometimes.

"There ought not to be any semblance of influence or impropriety when you're dealing as a regulator," agreed Jesus Salas, administrator of the Protection Agency.

The agency will finish its weeklong public comment session today. Officials said they hope to receive a lot of testimony today.

## Environmental issues

Yesterday, a handful of residents showed up to talk about environmental issues.

"I'm surprised that we only have a handful of people outside GEPA," said like Santos, of the Young Men's League of Guam.

Santos said he hoped more people would get involved.

## What's next

The last session of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's roundtable talks is open to the public. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. today in the Onward Agana Beach Hotel's Royal Room.

Protection Agency spokeswoman Grace O. Garces said everyone needs to get involved with the environment to make a difference.

"It's going to take more than just us," she said.

## Ordot dump

Garces said the overflowing Ordot dump is just one example of the environmental issues facing Guam.

The dump has been the center of attention recently because of the threat of fines and because of recent protests by several Ordot families.

Paul Tobiason, of the Recycling Association of Guam, said the island needs to keep working on ways to dispose of garbage.

"It seems to me that as an island we have to be superior at waste management... because we haven't got 20,000 acres," he said.

# Police seek suspects in Tamuning robbery

Daily News staff

Police were searching yesterday for two men who allegedly attacked and robbed a 40-year-old Tamuning woman earlier that morning.

Police spokesman Ferdinand Ibabao said the woman was walking at 2:35 a.m. in front of Paseo De Tamuning condominiums when two unknown men confronted her.

"One of them struck her on the head with a stick," Ibabao said. He said the other man grabbed the woman's purse.

Both men fled. Ibabao said the woman suffered a bruise to her head, but refused medical treatment.

The woman told police the two men got away with her purse and the items in it, which were valued at more than \$4,000.

Police have made no arrests and are asking for the public's help to capture the men.

The man who was armed with the stick is described as being 5-foot-5. He has a light complexion, short black hair and is medium built.

The other man is described as being 5-foot-8. He also has black hair, but has a medium complexion and is medium built.

Anyone with information should call Crime Stoppers at 477-HELP (4357) or the Guam Police Department at 472-8911.

# Bordallo names 3 members to decolonization group

Daily News staff

Acting Gov. Madeleine Bordallo appointed three members to the Commission on Decolonization yesterday, according to a press release.

Chris Perez Howard, Ron Rivera and Marilyn Manibusan were appointed to the commission, created by law in January.

By law, the commission will pursue changes in Guam's political status, to include indepen-

dence, statehood, or free association, based on the desire of Chamorros.

The 10-member board still needs appointees from the Mayor's Council, Guam Youth Congress, the judiciary and the Legislature.

Bordallo also appointed five members to the Chamorro Registry Advisory Board. The registry will help create a list of Chamorros for a Chamorro self-determination vote.

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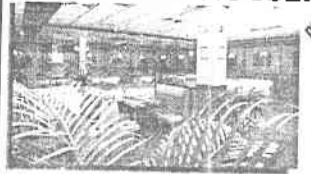
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# Panel prepares Guam for Chamorro-only vote

By LEO BABAUTA  
Daily News Staff

Chamorros will vote within the next couple years to choose which political status they want for Guam — independence, free association or statehood.

The Chamorro-only vote is part of the mission of the newly appointed Commission on Decolonization. The commission aims to exercise the Chamorro right of self-determination, which is the right of a people to determine the way they are governed.

"The main purpose of the commission is to launch an educational campaign," said Sen. Mark Charfauros, one of the senators who is pushing for the appointment of the commission's members. "It has to go to the public and say these are the three status choices, what would you like?"

Commission member Chris Perez Howard said self-determination is a misunderstood right.

"The biggest problem is we have to educate the people here on island," said Howard, president of the Organization of People for Indigenous Rights. "We have to educate everyone, because non-Chamorros have to understand that this is a people's right, not a U.S. citizen's right."

The commission will appoint three groups to support each of the status options. The groups will research and issue position papers on the options, and a public education campaign will be created using those reports.

"It uses terminology that is internationally recognized," commission member Sen. Mark Forbes said of the status options. "Those are the status options that are generally available in the United Nations decolonization process."

Chamorros will vote on the options in a plebiscite. The law that created the commission defines Chamorros as inhabitants of Guam in 1898 and their descendants.

"I would say within two years the Chamor-

## Commission members

Gov. Carl Gutierrez, chairman  
Marilyn Manibusan, governor's appointee  
Ron Rivera, governor's appointee  
Chris Perez Howard, governor's appointee  
Speaker Tony Unpingco, Legislature  
Sen. Mark Forbes, Legislature  
Sen. Willy Flores, Legislature  
Carlos Pangelinan, Guam Youth Congress

Mayor's Council and judicial branch haven't submitted their appointments yet.

ro people are going to be ready to vote," said Howard.

Members say the new commission won't replace the Commission on Self-Determination, which is supposed to promote the Guam Commonwealth Act.

"I don't see them at all in conflict. The Commission on Self-Determination's job is to deliver the commonwealth act," said Forbes. He said the commonwealth act, approved by Guam voters in 1987, supports Chamorro self-determination. "If anything it enhances the Commission on Decolonization."

The decolonization isn't supposed to eclipse the Commission on Self-Determination, according to law, but it will use the Commission on Self-Determination's staff and offices.

Leland Bettis, the Commission on Self-Determination's executive director, said the two commissions have roles that largely overlap.

"There's also a really big crossover among a lot of the areas," Bettis said. "I don't see it as a problem."

# Public Health tracks jump in sexually transmitted disease

## Majority of those tested for chlamydia are women under 24

By HIROSHI NIYAMA  
Daily News Staff

Public Health wants screening for the sexually transmitted disease chlamydia to be better coordinated.

Increased screening has shown a jump in reported cases of the disease since 1992, though the numbers fluctuate from year to year because of a lack of organized screening efforts said Josie O'Mallan, administrator of bureau of communicable disease control at the Department of Public Health and Social Services.

O'Mallan said clinics and Public Health have to work together more closely to find what the chlamydia infection trend is on Guam.

Chlamydia's common symptoms for men include a burning sensation when urinating and urethra infection. Symptoms for women range from abdominal pain and throat infection to vaginal discharge.

Antibiotics are available to cure chlamydia patients, but cured patients can be reinfected whenever they are exposed to chlamydia trachomatis bacteria, O'Mallan said.

Untreated patients, both men and women, can become infertile, O'Mallan added.

Since 1992, Guam's physicians included a chlamydia screening in prenatal care for all expecting mothers, O'Mallan said.

However, chlamydia is difficult to detect because 70 percent of infected women and half of infected men do not experience any apparent symptoms, O'Mallan said.

O'Mallan added that a majority of Guamanians with chlamydia are young women under the age of 24 who tested positive for the disease during prenatal checkups.

O'Mallan recommends all sexually active individuals with multiple partners to test for chlamydia regularly.

Nationwide, chlamydia is the most frequently reported infectious disease, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control.

The center estimates 4 million Americans contract chlamydia every year. Half of the affected individuals are women between the ages of 15 to 19, the center estimates.

It is not clear how common chlamydia is among students on Guam because the Department of Education, the University of Guam and Guam Community College do not keep such records.

## Chlamydia cases

Reported cases of Chlamydia on Guam

'90	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97
34	36	217	120	374	516	355	227*

\* Through June

For free testing for chlamydia and other sexually transmitted diseases, call Public Health for an appointment at 735-7137 and 734-2437.

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John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

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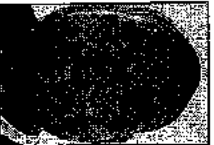
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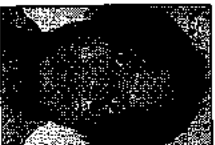


# SUNDAY FORUM

## Does Guam need a lieutenant governor?



"Yes, so they can back up the governor when the governor is off-island. Plus, they're a relief."  
**JOSE LANYO**  
22, Iwanigan student



"Possibly not, because the lieutenant governor doesn't really have an active role until the governor is absent."  
**EDUARDO BAYSON**  
18, Yago student



"Yes, with all the trips the governor goes on."  
**RYAN SHOOK**  
19, Yona student



"Yes, because when the governor is out doing his duties, a lieutenant governor has to take over."  
**KUYA AQUINO**  
18, Barrigada student



"I don't know, I'm not politically involved."  
**TYPERINA KASIMIRO**  
17, Manglao student

By Krystal Paez/For Sunday News

### Opinion page election policy

Between now and the General Election in November, the Pacific Daily News will not print letters that personally endorse or attack candidates running for political office. We do encourage leaders that address policy decisions and other issues voters need to consider.

## Transfers of power are nonsensical

By Robert Klitzkie



Klitzkie

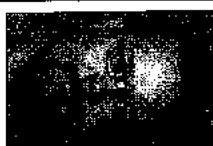
The question for today is, "When is a governor not a governor?" Here's one answer: "When he is in Korea."

Section 8 of the Organic Act requires that when the governor of Guam is temporarily absent from Guam, "the lieutenant governor shall have the powers of the governor." Thus, even when the governor is visiting a place so close that we can see it on a clear day, he loses all his powers. It follows that when the governor is pursuing our interests in the na-

tion's capital, he is without his powers, which are then to be exercised by the lieutenant governor during the governor's absence. So when the governor is off island, he becomes the absentee governor, i.e. he has the potential to be governor once he returns to Guam. Because of this quantum mechanics approach to governance, we have to have another public official, with all the expensive trappings of office, to serve when the governor is absent from the island. Parallels are hard to find. When the President of the United States is in Canada or China, he is still the president with all the powers of the president. Given modern communications and transportation, the governor could function from Trukhulu as well as Taramung. Well, not really. With or without a lieutenant governor, the governor would spend most of his time here. But with 21st

## We need to revise Guam's Organic Act

By Ron McIninch



McIninch

President Harry Truman's vice president, Alben Barkley, was fond of telling a tale about working with people. As the story goes, Alben was running for re-election to Congress and one of his strongest supporters had been talking poorly about working with people that he was considering voting for the other candidate in the race. On a trip back to his district, Alben paid a visit to the man to talk over his concerns. Alben reminded the man how he had visited him in a hospital after he was wounded in France in World War I. He also went down a list of things he had helped the man with over the years, a low-interest farm loan, crop subsidies, paved roads, etc. After he recited the list, Alben asked the man why he was telling everyone he was considering the other candidate. "All of the things you said are true," replied the man, "but what have you done for me lately?"

On Guam, our government structure is outlined in the Guam Organic Act. The office of the lieutenant governor is jointly attached to the office of the governor and candidates for both offices run as a team. Unless we changed the Organic Act in some way, there is not

much we can do about this arrangement. I do have one strong suggestion though I will mention later on. Here is a bigger question in the meantime though. Why do we need to constantly have an acting governor every time the governor goes on an off-island trip? Of course, the answer is the Organic Act, again. Why can't the governor's office and powers be portable? Outside of some sort of disaster response, there is no need to constantly shift to acting governors. When both the governor and lieutenant governor are off-island, our government goes into a parliamentary mode — the Organic Act calls for the speaker of the Legislature to become the acting governor. To be quite frank, we need to reconsider the line of succession and allow a top cabinet officer to serve in this role. While Speaker Mark Farber has never abused this power, we need to respect a separation of powers principle in our system. Before we had an elected governor, the governor of Guam had a territorial secretary, a sort of secretary of state. In fact, our lieutenant governors have been members of the national organizations for secretaries of state. Also, a number of current states use this title for the person designated to succeed the gov-

ernor in case of death, disability, resignation, recall or impeachment. A non-partisan secretary of state position might be a good alternative to a lieutenant governor. This person might serve a number of ceremonial roles and be the elected official in charge of elections. In fact, in case the office of the governor is vacated, this person might be in charge of a special succession election. Now here is the real part. Why do we have to run to Congress to get some of these improvements made? Why can't we ask the Congress to let us have the power to change the local government portions of the Guam Organic Act at the local level? For example, what if we wanted to move to a bicameral legislature instead of a single house? What if we want to hold elections on the first Saturday in November in even years and make the holiday question moot? Here is my suggestion: Put an item on the ballot for the November election that reads something like this: "The People of Guam respectfully request Congress to allow us the power to make adjustments to the local government sections of the Guam Organic Act." This one simple change to the Organic Act will allow the people, Legislature and governor to figure out some solutions to our problems. Also, it would allow Delegate Madeleine Bordallo to concentrate on important federal relations issues.

Ron McIninch is an associate professor of public administration at the University of Guam.

## To increase government revenues, should the QC program be overhauled?

Next Sunday

In order to better run the government of Guam, spending must be in line with revenues, which is never the case. The government of Guam routinely overspends its budget, but part of the problem is that the revenue stream falls short of expectations, for one reason or another. With critically needed infrastructure projects, and the need to improve education, health care and public safety, the question becomes: Where will the money come from? It's clear that the government needs to

streamline and tighten to become smaller and more efficient. But it could also use a boost in its revenue stream. One way to do that, without raising taxes, is to eliminate or reduce the amount of taxes that Guamans don't collect from businesses because of the Challenging Certificate program. A lot of money is lost to the government because of this QC program. We want your thoughts and insight. Arrangable discussion on the topic will be held at noon Sept. 21 at the Pacific Daily News. Call

Editorial Editor Duane M. George at 477-9711, ext. 415 or send e-mail to dingeorge@guampdn.com if you are interested in attending. To contribute an article for the Sunday Forum, limit it to less than 500 words, include a picture (if possible), as well as your village and a contact number. Fax articles to 477-3079, drop them off at our offices in Hagåtña, or e-mail to voice@guampdn.com.

Deadline: 5 p.m., Sept. 21