

ity health care. Any excuse to not privatize GMH means you think your excuse is more important than quality health care.

Ask yourself, is "we-can't-privatize-because" really more important than quality health care?

MIKE WENDT
Yigo

No reason for U.S. presence on Guam

The dilemma of the U.S. government controlling Guam, specifically involving land issues, is a problem that seems to be dividing the people of Guam at all levels. However, I

feel that most people who are apparently comfortable with the idea that the federal government dictates Guam's fate, are simply unable to distinguish right from wrong.

There are those who care enough to challenge the long arm of Uncle Sam. There are others who enjoy life as it is, happy to have a U.S. passport, pay taxes and keep their mouth shut.

Regardless of where you stand, it is important to keep a broad perspective of the entire issue, rather than limit yourself to an opinion based on limited facts.

It is a fact that after U.S., British, Russian and French troops defeated and occupied Germany, they have now almost completely pulled out, allowing Germany to be a country that is virtually free to do as it pleases.

It is a fact that the Philippines was liberated by U.S. armed forces, with the subsequent creation of military bases and a lengthy presence in that country. Now the Philippines is free to decide its own fate and live according to the laws established by its own government.

So are we supposed to be content with a country that, after liberating us from the Japanese, has decided to make itself comfortable here?

It is not an acceptable argument to justify

a continued U.S. presence on Guam, simply because of liberation. Many people claim that Guam would not be able to sustain itself without the United States and we should keep things the way they are.

Guam should be a free republic with continued U.S. relations that complement both sides but, most importantly, allow the people their own voice in the international community.

MARCELLO W. GARRIDO
Houston, Texas

History is reason enough for statehood

Four hundred seventy-eight years of influence from Western cultures and close association with the United States for more than 100 years are compelling reasons for the U.S. Congress to grant statehood to Guam.

Once statehood is attained, more than 150,000 U.S. citizens living on Guam would be able to exercise their full rights that are guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Guam has great potential to become one of the most important states of the union. Its geographical location makes it ideal as a transshipment port to the countries in the Pacific region and Asia.

Other potentials include the fact that Guam is the crossroads of the telecommunication network in the Pacific, our vast mineral deposits on the ocean floor and our waters are rich fishing grounds.

ED R. CHANCO
Agana Heights

Is something bugging you? Or are you looking for a way to recognize someone who's making life better? Send us your thoughts. But make sure to send your name (no pen names, please), village of residence and a phone number where we can reach you during the day.

By Garry Trudeau

