

Pacific Daily News

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Hafa Adai, it's Saturday

40c on Guam

Takeover of Fena Reservoir planned

By BRIAN PERRY
Daily News Staff

Imagine the peaceful occupation of Navy-owned Fena Reservoir by Gov. Joseph F. Ada, Speaker Joe T. San Agustin and various government of Guam officials.

Such a confrontation between Guam civilians and Navy guards is what's called for — a year from today — in a bill passed yesterday by senators after nearly six hours of debate.

Approved by a vote of 12 "ayes," seven "nays" and two abstentions, Bill 609 declares the Fena Reservoir the property of all the people of Guam and mandates its occupation if negotiations fail to get it returned to the government of Guam by Sept. 15, 1990.

According to legislative findings, the Navy failed to transfer the reservoir to the government of Guam as mandated by the Organic Act of Guam in 1950.

Voting for the bill were: Speaker Joe T. San Agustin, D-Dededo; and Sens. John P. Aguon, D-Tumon/Tamuning; George Bamba, R-Agana Heights; Madeleine Z. Bordallo, D-Tamuning; Herminia D. Dierking, D-Tamuning; Carl T.C. Gutierrez, D-Agana Heights; Pilar C. Lujan, D-Chalan Pago/Ordot; Ted S. Nelson, D-Yigo; Don Parkinson, D-Toto; Edward D. Reyes, D-Tamuning; Frank Santos, D-Sinajana; and Tony Unpingco, R-Santa Rita.

Voting "no" were: Sens. Thomas Tanaka, R-Yigo; Edward Duenas, R-Agana Heights; Marilyn Manibusan,

R-Chalan Pago; Doris Flores Brooks, R-Agana; Ernesto Espaldon, R-Tumon; Gordon Mailloux, D-Barrigada; and Franklin J.A. Quitugua, D-Chalan Pago.

Sens. Elizabeth P. Arriola, D-Tamuning, and Martha C. Ruth, R-Agana Heights, abstained from voting on the measure.

Parkinson, the bill's author, said the government of Guam has tried lawsuits and resolutions to get Fena Reservoir returned.

"We've begged, pleaded and cajoled," he said. "Everybody's ignored us."

He said the threat of an occupation would force the Navy to the negotiating table. "Why should we pay the Navy

and the Air Force for our water?" he asked.

"I'm not advocating violence. I'm not advocating revolution. I'm advocating that the people go down and take what's rightfully theirs," Parkinson said.

Tanaka said the move was illegal and predicted violence would break out even with a peaceful takeover.

"Emotions are going to run rampant," he said.

Lujan rejected any notion of violence.

"There is no suggestion that we will go there armed and take over with violence," she said. "We would not want to endanger any citizen."

Duenas opposed the occupation as a futile gesture and suggested trying to

See TAKEOVER, Page 4

Senators pass