



Department of State

TELEGRAM

280

SP-153(236)

Marianas

10

CONFIDENTIAL 809

PAGE 01 110409Z

R

17

ACTION 10-03

INFO OCT-01 PM-05 INR-08 P-03 PRS-01 SAL-02 SS-10 EA-15

1048 W

105016

R 102250Z MAY 71
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN
TO SECINTERIOR
INFO SECSTATE
SECDEFENSE
WHITE HOUSE
USUN NEW YORK
CINCPAC
CINCPACREP GUAM/TPI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by BAB DATE 6/20/88
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.

FOI, EO or PA exemptions _____ TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR.

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM HICOMTERPACIS POLAD (TRUK), INTERIOR FOR ASST. SECRETARY LOESCH AND OFFICE OF TERRITORIES, STATE FOR IO/UNP, EA/ANZ, S/PC, DEFENSE FOR

OSD/ISA, WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. LEVIN (NSC), CINCPAC FOR POLAD. SUBJECT: CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE MARIANAS DISTRICT

1. CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAM PREPARED MAY 7 (WHICH MAY BE DISPATCHED FROM

GUAM SAME DAY AS THIS TELEGRAM), REPORTED ON DIVERSE SENTIMENTS AND REACTIONS REGARDING MARIANAS BOYCOTT OF CONGRESSIONAL SPECIAL SESSION. SINCE THAT TELEGRAM PREPARED, BOYCOTT PARTIALLY BROKEN BY ARRIVAL TRUK ON MAY 8 OF MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN FELIPE ATALIG. HIS

PAGE TWO RUHJOSA7508 CONFIDENTIAL

ARRIVAL, AND THAT OF TWO UNOFFICIAL OBSERVERS OF MARIANAS TERRITORIAL PARTY, REPORTED BY UNCLASSIFIED TELEGRAM MAY 8.

2. THIS MORNING TERRITORIAL PARTY CHAIRMAN SUS MAFNAS TOLD ME SENATOR BORJA ALMOST CERTAIN TO ARRIVE HERE ON NEXT FLIGHT (MAY 12) FROM

SAIPAN, ACCORDING MAFNAS, BORJA REMAINING ON SAIPAN ONLY FOR PURPOSE OF

"MAKING FINAL EFFORT" CONVINCE OTHER THREE MEMBERS DELEGATION ATTEND SPECIAL SESSION. NEITHER ATALIG NOR MAFNAS VERY HOPEFUL BORJA WILL BE

CONFIDENTIAL

OS-425685

4



Department of State

TELEGRAM

037009Z

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02: 110409Z

SUCCESSFUL.

3. ATALIG TOLD ME HE HAD OPPOSED BOYCOTT FROM OUTSET, BUT WAS RELUCTANT TO ACT ON HIS OWN BY COMING HERE. HE ADMITTED HIS DECISION TO COME AFTER ALL WAS MIX OF CONVICITON BOYCOTT WRONG APPROACH TO SOLVING MARIANAS PROBLEMS, AND OF PRESSURES FROM HIS CONSTITUENTS ON ROTA AND TINIAN ISLANDS WHO DO NOT SUPPORT LINE OF ACTION BEING TAKEN BY HARDLINERS IN AND OUT OF MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE. ATALIG EMPHASIZED THAT HE CONTINUES SUPPORT SECESSIONIST MOVEMENT BUT WITH RESERVATIONS ON SOME OF TACTICS.

4. SOME BACKGROUND ON ACTORS AND STAGE OF THI MINOR DRAMA MAY BE USEFUL. EARLIER REPORTS HAVE HIGHLIGHTED REASONS FOR MARIANAS SEPARATIST SENTIMENT. WHAT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN MADE CLEAR WAS THAT THERE ARE MAJOR DIVISIONS IN MARIANAS COMMUNITY OVER TACTICS TO BE UTILIZED TOWARD

PAGE THREE RUHJOSA7508: C O N F I D E N T I A L
 GOAL OF CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH U.S., POPULAR PARTY, WHICH CONTROLS SAIPAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, AND FOUR OF FIVE CONGRESSIONAL SEATS (SENATOR BORJA IS TERRITORIAL PARTY), IS PUSHING (OR AT LEAST ITS LEADERSHIP IS) FOR IMMEDIATE SECESSION FROM TPI AND "REINTEGRATION" WITH GUAM. MAJOR FIGURES IN THIS MOVEMENT ARE SAIPAN MAYOR VICENTE SABLAN, DISTRICT LEGISLATURE PRESIDENT VICENTE SANTOS, AND SENATOR EDWARD PANGELINAN. (FIRST TWO ARE PROBABLY MOTIVATED MORE BY PERSONAL FINANCIAL MOTIVES THAN BY PRINCIPLE.) SENATOR BORJA, THOUGH A MEMBER OF TERRITORIAL PARTY, AGREES WITH BASIC GOALS OF POPULAR

PARTY LEADERSHIP, BUT HAS BEEN OBJECTING TO SOME OF TACTICS, INCLUDING PRESENT BOYCOTT. POPULAR PARTY HAS ITS GREATEST STRENGTH ON SAIPAN.

5. TERRITORIAL PARTY (45 PERCENT OF VOTE IN LAST HOUSE ELECTIONS) DRAWS ITS STRENGTH FROM LARGE CAROLINIAN AND PALAUAN COMMUNITIES IN MARIANAS DISTRICT PLUS SUPPORT FROM SOME MAJOR SAIPANESE BUSINESS INTERESTS, AND VARIOUS OTHER GROUPINGS ON SAIPAN, ROTA, AND TINIAN ISLANDS. TECHNICALLY IT IS NOW FOR FREE ASSOCIATION RATHER THAN FOR COMMONWEALTH OR "REINTEGRATION" WITH GUAM. HOWEVER, MOST OF ITS LEADERSHIP SPEAKS OF A FORM OF FREE ASSOCIATION MORE AKIN TO COMMON-

WEALTH AND WHICH INCLUDES U.S. NATIONALITY FOR MICRONESIANS. BASIC DIFFERENCE

037009Z

CONFIDENTIAL

05-425686



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 110409Z

FROM POPULAR PARTY APPEARS TO BE THAT TERRITORIAL PARTY DESIRES CONTINUE

PAGE FOUR RUHJ05A7508 C O N F I D E N T I A L MICRONESIAN UNITY AND FAVORS COMMON POLITICAL STATUS FOR TTPI. MANY ALSO FAVOR ULTIMATE UNION OF GUAM WITH A SELF-GOVERNING MICRONESIA AFTER TERMINATION OF TRUSTEESHIP, WHILE OPPOSING MARIANAS UNION WITH GUAM. PERHAPS BEST DESCRIPTION OF PARTY POLICY AT THIS POINT IS TO STATE

THAT IT IS ONE OF KEEPING ALL OPTIONS OPEN FOR TIME-BEING. PART OF TERRITORIAL PARTY'S PROBLEM IS THAT ITS POWER BASE, A MIX OF CAROLINIANS, PALAUANS, AND CHAMORROS, HAS EXTRAORDINARILY DIVERSE INTERESTS. PARTY'S INABILITY TO DEVELOP A REALLY COHESIVE PROGRAM, PLUS

ITS LOSS OF ALL SIGNIFICANT ELECTIVE OFFICES (EXCEPT SENATOR BORJA'S SENATE SEAT), HAS RESULTED IN PRESENT SITUATION WHERE PARTY LEADERSHIP

TENDS SIMPLY TO OPPOSE POLICIES AND ACTIONS OF POPULAR PARTY RATHER THAN

TO DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF ITS OWN. A FURTHER COMPLICATING SCENE HAS BEEN ROLE OF SENATOR BORJA AS

DESCRIBED ABOVE. BORJA'S PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO LEAVE TERRITORIAL PARTY UNTIL HE IS CERTAIN POPULAR PARTY WILL

EMBRACE HIM FULLY AND ENDORSE HIM AS CANDIDATE IN NEXT SENATE ELECTIONS

THUS, FOR THE MOMENT, HE IS PULLED IN DIFFERING DIRECTIONS BY TWO PARTIES AND IS LIKELY TO GO IN WHATEVER DIRECTION WINDS APPEAR TO BE BLOWING STRONGEST. PROBABLY ONLY REASON TERRITORIAL PARTY HAS NOT THROWN

HIM OUT OF PARTY IS THAT HE NOW IS ONLY SIGNIFICANT ELECTIVE OFFICER

PAGE FIVE RUHJ05A7508 C O N F I D E N T I A L HOLDER PARTY HAS

6. WITH REGARD TO PUBLIC OPINION IN MARIANAS ON BOYCOTT ISSUE, SOURCES ARE SOMETHING LESS THAN OBJECTIVE OR RELIABLE, BUT BOTH

CONFIDENTIAL

05-425687



Department of State

TELEGRAM

03 15 08 10 30

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 110409Z

CONGRESSMAN ATALIG AND TERRITORIAL PARTY CHAIRMAN MAFNAS CLAIM MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO HAVE VOICED OPINION ON SUBJECT IN MARIANAS BELIEVE BOYCOTT WAS MISTAKE AND THAT IT BETTER TO REMAIN WITH SYSTEM, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING. APPARENTLY MOST OF THOSE VOICING SUCH OPINIONS ARE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

7. MESSAGE PREPARED MAY 9. DORRANCE. GP-3.

FACTOR ON SAIPAN POLITICAL

03 15 08 10 30

CONFIDENTIAL

4

05- 425688