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The present talks at Hana, Maui, might be followed by further negotiations before long, perhaps to refine the agreements reached here, and therefore it might be some time before we could consider these present negotiations finished, and get in touch with them. They said they understood this.

I asked what kind of relationship with Guam was contemplated in the Marianas. The immediate response, from Sen. Pangelinan, was that sentiment in the Marianas had changed, and that the people no longer desire union with Guam, because they fear economic domination by superior monetary power of Guam, and also fear numerical domination by the Guamanian majority. He said that his people are seeking something like the commonwealth offer of May, 1970, and that his people want to be members of the U.S. family and want to be U.S. citizens.

I said the commonwealth offer had been made to Micronesia as a whole and that our side would see problems in establishing a third variety of status in the area, different both from Guam and Micronesia. However I could promise that appropriate U.S. officials would be in touch with the leaders of the Marianas during the coming months. I urged them to discuss their desires with leaders on Guam, and said the U.S.G. might also. This brought a further demurrer from both men that their people no longer desire union with Guam. I repeated that in any case I was authorized to assure them that the U.S. Government would be in touch after we could do so without giving the appearance of trying to split the Micronesian delegation during our negotiations.

They then described their difficulty in taking the initiative and speaking up at the negotiating table, because of their responsibilities to the rest of the Status Committee. They asked if the U.S. could take the initiative instead, which would make it easier for them to respond. I said I did not think so, because for the U.S. side to raise the matter would be much more likely to cause criticism in Micronesia and in the U.S. than for them to do so, and they already had a reason for speaking up, because of Salif's opening statement. They pressed me rather hard to suggest the exact language that they should use. I said I did not want to be in the position of offering language to them, but that almost any statement that referred to the separate sentiment in the Marianas would suffice.

Then they asked if the U.S. side would be able to respond on the record if they made such a statement on the record. I said I would have to consult Amb. Williams about this, but I thought that because of the factors we all understand, the most we could do at this time would probably be to "take note" of their statement. I pointed out that at the end of the present negotiating sessions, and before we leave Maui, there would almost certainly be a joint communique of some kind, which hopefully would

UNCLASSIFIED  
SECRET

411226

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

3.

contain statements of the views expressed and the agreements reached by both sides. When such a document was being drafted, perhaps it would then be easier for them to insist on appropriate language to be inserted. They replied that they were not sure they could even accomplish this, because it had been only with the utmost difficulty that they had gotten the language inserted in Salii's opening statement, and it has been considerably watered down from what they wanted.

Sen. Pangelinan then asked me directly whether, in the event that the Marianas made a direct request at some later date, the U.S. Government would agree to a suitably close union for the Marianas. I said this was pressing me beyond the scope of my present instructions, but that I knew that such a request would be viewed sympathetically. I again referred to the difficulty of establishing a separate status for the Marianas separate from Guam and separate from the rest of the Trust Territory, and said it would perhaps be easier to make arrangements for union with Guam; this they again ruled out, on the grounds they had described earlier.

I again expressed the sincere appreciation of the United States for the sentiments expressed by the people of the Marianas, and re-affirmed our commitment to be in touch with the leaders of the Marianas at a suitable time.

The tone of the conversation was friendly and relaxed throughout. The Marianas delegates exhibited understanding and appreciation for the U.S. position, even on those points where I had to give rather negative responses.

Arthur W. Hummel, Jr.

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