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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-04 INR-06 P-02 PRS-01 IO-03 AS-01 /026 W
042724

P 190520Z MAY 72 ZNZ.1
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN
TO ALDISTAD TERPACIS
LNO GUAM
LNO KWAJ
COMNAVMARIANAS
CINCPAC
CINCPACREPGUAM/TTP1
USNAVINSERVO GUAM
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA
SECSTATE
HICOMRY OKINAWA RYIS
INFO SEC DEF
JCS
CNO
CHINFO
CINCPACFLT
CINCPACAF
CINCUSARPAC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by BHB DATE 4/28/88
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXEMPT DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemption: _____
_____ TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

CGFMPAC
COMCBPAC
NAVFACENGCOM HDQTRS
PACDIVNAVFACENGEOM
HICOMTERPACIS LNO HONO

UNCLAS (SECTION I OF III)
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/HICOMRY OKINAWA NOT
ADDEES PASS INFO
CANBERRA FOR POL SECTION
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS.
USCAR FOR: TTP1 LNO
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT. INT/SEC INTERIOR/DASTA/OSN
(MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION APPROVED)

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SAIPAN MAY 19 (MNS).--THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE HAS PASSED ON FINAL READING AN HISTORIC ACT CREATING A MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION. THE ACTION CAME AT THE THURSDAY (MAY 18) MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE'S SPECIAL SESSION WHICH BEGAN LAST WEEK.

ACCORDING TO THE APPROVED LEGISLATION, THE COMMISS

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SION WILL CONSIST OF FIFTEEN PEOPLE; TWO PERSONS TO BE SELECTED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE; THE TWO MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA; TWO PERSONS EACH FROM THE TINIAN, ROTA, AND SAIPAN COUNCILS; ONE PERSON TO BE SELECTED BY THE MAYOR OF SAIPAN TO REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS; ONE REPRESENTATIVE EACH FROM THE MARIANAS POPULAR PARTY, TERRITORIAL PARTY, UNITED CARILINIAN ASSOCIATION OF SAIPAN, AND ONE FROM DULY ORGANIZED BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS, FIRMS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MARIANAS TO BE SELECTED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR. THE SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMISSION WILL BE MADE WITHIN 90-DAYS.

THE ACT FURTHER GIVES THE COMMISSION AUTHORITY TO MAKE STUDIES CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEADING TO A CLOSE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE COMMISSION IS ALSO AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH APPROPRIATE PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND SOLICIT UNDERSTANDING SUPPORT FOR THE POSITION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS.

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FURTHERMORE, THE COMMISSION IS AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE U.S. ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT AND PROVIDES THAT THE ISSUE WILL NOT BE BINDING ON THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS UNTIL RATIFIED THROUGH A PLEBISCITE OR REFERENDUM.

THE ACT PROVIDES THAT THE COMMISSION CONDUCT POLITICAL EDUCATION WITHIN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT AND PREPARE BASIC CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS FOR SUBMISSION AS WORKING PAPERS

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