



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

9 August 1972

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From: William J. Crowe, Jr., Acting Director, Office for  
Micronesian Status Negotiations

To: Mr. Stanley S. Carpenter, Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Territorial Affairs

Subject: Future Political Status of the Mariana Islands

1. The ~~formal negotiations~~ with the Marianas Political Status Committee will take place ~~around 1 December~~.

2. The U.S. Delegation ~~should be fully prepared to discuss a number of political alternatives~~ available to the Mariana Islands and should have ~~developed~~ both its ~~preferences~~ for such a status and ~~its rationale~~ therefore.

3. Because your office has extensive experience with the administration of these islands, we believe that ~~an analysis~~ of these political alternatives as well as their consequences ~~should be undertaken by the Department of the Interior~~. This examination should outline the political alternatives available and discuss the ~~merits and disadvantages of each alternative~~. In turn, each option should be examined from the perspective of the United States Government and specific recommendations should be made as to which position the U.S. should take on each alternative. Time factors require that this study be completed and submitted to OMSN by 1 October 1972.

4. One other facet of the future relationship deserves special comment. It is ~~essential that the Marianas District not suffer financially~~ as a result of the decision to seek union with the United States. As each political alternative is examined, the financial implications should be developed and suitable recommendations made.

5. ~~This office will be happy to assist in any manner.~~

Respectfully,

William J. Crowe, Jr.  
Acting Director, Office for  
Micronesian Status Negotiations

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## Marianas Negotiations

### I. Preliminary Arrangements

- a) Establish framework for talks, including both time and place, perhaps can be done when Pangelinan and Guerrero et al are in U.S. for Trusteeship Council meeting. An alternative would be to send small group (1 or 2) to Saipan to make these arrangements. Prefer Washington as site of first session talks.
- b) After intial discussions of a purely exploratory nature, consider the possibility of exchanging papers on an informal basis. These papers could indicate what the Marianas want by way of a relationship (territorial or commonwealth status, union with Guam, or whatever) and what the U.S. sees as possibilities and problems (e.g., interim administration of the Marianas, terminating the Trusteeship).
- c) Aim should be to get past generalized expressions of intent as quickly as possible and move on to the specific.

### II. Negotiating Steps

- a) Initial talks to:
  - 1) Hopefully resolve general nature of overall status
  - 2) Open way for land negotiations - to commence as soon as possible
- b) Subsequent talks to address specifics of status relationship and financial arrangements
- c) Land negotiations

Note: These steps can perhaps be carried on simultaneously, although finances might be deferred since status of territory, for example, would pretty clearly define the nature of U.S. responsibility.

### III. Policy Issues for U.S.

- a) What kind of relationship best serves U.S. interests? Territory? Commonwealth? Other, such as Association-not-so-Free as the rest of Micronesia?
- b) Is union with Guam a workable solution? What are political, administrative, financial implications?
- c) What are DOD's long-term objectives in the Marianas? Is it reasonable to expect needs to arise beyond those presently identified? If so, how should this possibility be broached in dealings with the Marianas?
- d) Is it possible or desirable to separate the Marianas administratively from the rest of Micronesia? What would be the effect on negotiations with the rest of Micronesia? On negotiations with the Marianas?
- e) Assuming agreement can be reached fairly promptly with the Marianas, what would be the effect of ending, or trying to end, the Trusteeship for the Marianas only? On U.S. interests? On negotiations with the rest of Micronesia? On the Marianas themselves? Within the UN context?
- f) What steps should be taken to coordinate U.S. policy with regard to Guam with the change in Marianas status?

# U.S. Sets Shipping Pact

## U.S. Sets Shipping Pact An Eye On Status

The Mariana Islands Political Status Commission met on Saipan and discussed a proposed format for status talks to be conducted with the United States.

The commission approved, in general terms, the subjects which should be discussed in three preliminary sessions: political, financial and social, and what the U.S. will offer the Mariana Islands in a permanent arrangement between the two.

The commission agreed it will want to find out from the U.S. negotiating team when the U.S. military will return to the Marianas and how much land the military will require.

It was also decided that the commission will request that the Trust Territory government be enjoined from providing land to foreign investors while the status talks are going on except in urgent cases which have received the approval of the commission.

## U.S. Sets Shipping Pact An Eye On Status

The two parties expressed hope that the new arrangement will enable Micronesia to trade with Australia, New Zealand, and other Pacific islands regularly and with reasonable rates.

Delegations on the agreement were made at a meeting on Saipan with U.S. government officials. High Commissioner Edward F. Hanlon signed the agreement, to signify the approval of the government.

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The communist terrorist campaign.

Two injured telephone operators were taken to the Santa Rosa Hospital after one explosion on the ground floor of City Hall wrecked their

working space. The second of the two explosions, heard one after the other at 10:20 p.m., tipped through the marketing administration office, also on the ground floor of City Hall, bringing down the ceiling and blasting an air conditioner into the street.

Mrs. Valdez said she and her companion, Yolanda Alonzo, ran groggily to the police guardpost at the front wing of the building. She sustained several cuts caused by flying glass in the arms and leg while Miss Alonzo suffered cuts in the head and body.

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