

The substance of this was reiterated by representatives of the Marianas at the UN Trusteeship Council Meeting in New York in May. Such sentiment had been expressed on numerous occasions over the past 10 years in referenda, in resolutions adopted by the Marianas District Legislature, in petitions to the United Nations, by the Marianas endorsement of a Commonwealth proposal (1970), and by direct representation to the U.S. Government.

The U.S. Delegation at Koror last April responded affirmatively to the Marianas request and agreed to enter into separate negotiations with the Mariana Islands.

The Marianas District Legislature has established a 15-man Political Status Commission drawn from a wide cross-section to represent the people of the Marianas in the forthcoming negotiations. Senator Edward D.L.G. Pangelinan of the Congress of Micronesia and President Vicente Santos of the Marianas District Legislature were selected Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission, respectively.

The U.S. Delegation, which will be headed by Ambassador Williams, includes Mr. James Wilson, Jr., U.S. Deputy Representative; Mr. Stanley S. Carpenter, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior; Captain William J. Crowe, Jr., USN, Director of the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations, and advisers.

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