

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SECT 01 OF 69155

ACTION J5(02) ASD:ISA(10)  
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FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN  
TO ZEN/ALDISTAD TERPACIS  
ZEN/LNO GUAM  
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RUHJPBA/USNAVINSERVO GUAM  
RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
RUWJAJA/COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA  
RUEHC/SECSTATE  
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UNCLAS (SECTION I OF III)  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/NOT ADDEES PASS INFO  
CANBERRA FOR POL SECTION  
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

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TIPI NO. 256

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: THE FOLLOWING MNS RELEASE FOR THIS DATE WILL CONSIST OF ONLY ONE STORY. THAT STORY IS A LONG ONE, BUT IT IS AN IMPORTANT ONE. WE SUGGEST THAT YOU WILL WANT TO USE IT IN THIS ENTIRELY.)

(MARIANAS STATUS)

SAIPAN, DEC. 14, (MNS)--U.S. AND MARIANAS DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES MET WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 13, FOR THEIR FIRST FACE TO FACE SESSION IN THE NEW POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS. IN AN OPENING PLENARY SESSION, WHICH WAS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN EDWARD DLG. PANGELINAN AND U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS PRESENTED OPENING STATEMENTS FOR EACH OF THEIR DELEGATIONS IN THE HIGHLY FORMAL STYLE OF MEETING WHICH HAS BECOME COMMON FOR THE MICRONESIAN NEGOTIATIONS. THE STATEMENTS TO SOME EXTENT OUTLINED BASIC CONCERNS OF EACH SIDE, AND SET THE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE CLOSED WORKING SESSIONS ON THURSDAY (DEC 14) WERE TO PROCEED.

CHAIRMAN PANGELINAN IN HIS REMARKS, REVIEWED SOME OF THE MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE COVERED DURING THE COMING NEGOTIATIONS. CONCERNING THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE PRESENT MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT, HE SAID:

"ALTHOUGH THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH A CLOSE POLITICAL AFFILIATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE EXACT FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF THAT RELATIONSHIP REMAINS TO BE DECIDED. THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION PLANS TO UNDERTAKE A THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF THE VARIOUS FORMS OF POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE MARIANAS.

IN PARTICULAR, WE PLAN TO EXAMINE THE UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY AND COMMONWEALTH ALTERNATIVES TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER EITHER OF THESE APPROACHES CAN BE ADAPTED TO THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS AND ECONOMIC GOALS OF THE MARIANAS. WE INTEND TO EXAMINE AND EXPLORE THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCE OF GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND PUERTO RICO TO SEE IF THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THOSE AREAS SUGGESTS ANY PROBLEMS OR DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE MARIANAS SHOULD AVOID. BASED UPON SUCH AN EXAMINATION, OUR COMMISSION MIGHT WELL CONCLUDE THAT NEITHER THE TERRITORY NOR COMMONWEALTH FORMAT IS ACCEPTABLE. IT MAY WELL BE NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A TOTALLY NEW POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE MARIANAS."

THE CHAIRMAN CALLED UPON THE U.S. DELEGATION TO COOPERATE WITH

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THEM, IN THE TASK OF SEARCHING FOR THE POLITICAL STATUS BEST SUITED TO THE NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS. HE THEN OUTLINED THE MOST IMPORTANT MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED THOROUGHLY DURING THE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS. LAND IS ONE OF THEM.

"ONCE A POLITICAL FORMAT OF CLOSE ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN DEVELOPED FOR THE MARIANA ISLANDS," PANGELINAN DECLARED, "IT WOULD THEN BE APPROPRIATE FOR ALL MILITARY RETENTION AND PUBLIC LAND TO BE TURNED OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS." THIS WILL PROPERLY RECOGNIZE, HE CONTINUED, "THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS OVER THEIR LAND. THEREAFTER, NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING ANY DESIRED MILITARY AND PUBLIC USES OF THIS LAND COULD BE CONDUCTED WITH THE SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTAL BODY OF THE MARIANAS. THIS CERTAINLY WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, BE THE BEST WAY OF HANDLING THE LAND TRANSITION PROBLEMS," PANGELINAN SAID. HE ADDED THAT "LAND--ITS USE, SALE, AND DEVELOPMENT--IS PROBABLY THE MOST IMPORTANT AND DIFFICULT PROBLEM WE FACE IN THE FUTURE."

ANOTHER BROAD AREA TO BE CONSIDERED DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS RELATES TO ECONOMICS AND FINANCE. CHAIRMAN PANGELINAN IDENTIFIED A FEW KEY QUESTIONS INVOLVING THE TWO: "FIRST," PANGELINAN SAID, "THERE IS THE QUESTION OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR SUPPORTING THE INSTITUTIONS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE MARIANAS." HE CONTINUED THAT "THE MARIANAS RECOGNIZES THAT THE PUBLIC MONIES MADE AVAILABLE BY THE UNITED STATES DURING THE PERIOD OF ITS TRUSTEESHIP HAVE BEEN PROVIDED THROUGH VARIOUS GRANT PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE UNITED STATES LAWS. WE WILL WANT TO EXPLORE THE CONTINUATION OF SUCH PROGRAMS AT THE SAME TIME THAT WE STRIVE TO MAKE THEM MORE

RESPONSIBLE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS AS EXPRESSED THROUGH THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES."

HE ADDED THAT, "ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE CLEARLY NEEDED FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARIANAS," PANGELINAN SAID. "AS NUMEROUS STUDIES HAVE MADE CLEAR, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO DEVELOPE SMALL INDUSTRIES IN THE MARIANAS WHICH WILL FURTHER THE RATIONAL EXPLOITATION OF OUR RESOURCES CONSISTENT WITH PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY OF ITS PEOPLE." IN LIKE FASHION, HE STATED, "WE ALSO NEED TO DISCUSS THE CAPABILITIES OF THE MARIANAS TO RAISE MONEY THROUGH TAXATION ON AN UNRESTRICTED BASIS." AND A FINAL POINT IN THE AREA OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE RELATES TO THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS IN THE MARIANAS UNDER A NEW POLITICAL STATUS. CONSIDERABLE INTERESTS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED BY FOREIGN BUSINESS CONCERNS IN BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MARIANAS." PANGELINAN THEN DECLARED THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS "WANT TO BE ABLE TO EXPLORE AND PROFIT FROM THE

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THESE POSSIBILITIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, ALWAYS KEEPING IN MIND  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL IMPACT ON THE MARIANAS."

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SECT 02 OF 69155

ACTION JB(02) ASD/ISA(10)  
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CSA WASH DC  
CSAF CMC DIA(20) CIA NSA MCCC FILE(1)  
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TRANSIT/140615Z/141050Z/004:35TOR3491018  
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ZNR UUUUU  
P 140615Z DEC 72 ZNZ-1  
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN  
TO ZEN/ALDISTAD TERPACIS  
ZEN/LNO GUAM  
RUHHBAA/LNO KWAJ  
RUHNSAA/COMNAVMAIANAS  
RUHHQA/CINCPAC  
RUHNSAA/CINCPACREPGUAM/TTPI  
RUHJPBA/USNAVINSERVO GUAM  
RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
RUWJAJA/COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA  
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RUAOBGA/HQ USARBCO-MACHINATO/TTPI-LNO  
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RUHHBRA/CINCPACFLT  
RUHHABA/CINCPACAF  
RUHHRGA/CINCUSARPAC  
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UNCLAS (SECTION II OF III)  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/NOT ADEES PASS INFO  
CANBERRA FOR POL SECTION  
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

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(MARIANAS STATUS CONT)

IN THE AREA OF GOVERNMENT TRANSITION TO A NEW STATUS, SENATOR PANGELINAN STATED THAT ONCE THE POLITICAL STATUS FORMAT IS CHOSEN, AND THE LAND AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY PROVIDED FOR, . . . THEN THE FINAL PROBLEM WILL BE SMOOTH TRANSITION FROM THE PRESENT POLITICAL ENTITY TO A NEW ONE. "IF WE MUTUALLY ARRIVE AT A NEW POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE MARIANAS BEFORE THE REMAINDER OF TRUST TERRITORY RESOLVES ITS STATUS," THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN SAID, "WE BELIEVE THAT OUR NEW STATUS SHOULD BE INITIATED WITHOUT DELAY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT NUMEROUS PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS MAY BE RAISED BY SUCH A POSSIBILITY, INVOLVING SUCH DELICATE MATTERS AS SECURING THE NECESSARY APPROVALS OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED NATIONS AND DECIDING HOW TO ALLOCATE THE ASSETS PRESENTLY BELONGING TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS." HE ADDED THAT THE PRINCIPLES INVOLVED SHOULD BE CLEARLY RECOGNIZED.

PANGELINAN THEN TOLD THE U.S. DELEGATION THAT "IF THESE DISCUSSIONS ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN IN GOOD FAITH BY BOTH PARTIES," THEN, IN HIS WORDS, "WE MUST BE PREPARED TO IMPLEMENT ANY NEW POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE MARIANAS AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE."

WHEN PANGELINAN HAD CONCLUDED HIS OPENING STATEMENT, HE TURNED TO AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS FOR HIS REMARKS. WILLIAMS, TOO, OUTLINED SOME OF THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE U.S. DELEGATION FOR THE CURRENT STATUS MEETINGS.

"SPEAKING FOR MYSELF AND FOR THE AMERICAN DELEGATION," HE SAID, "WE WISH TO PLEDGE TO YOU OUR FULL COOPERATION IN PROCEEDING DELIBERATELY AND WITHOUT DELAY TOWARD A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT."

HE SAID THAT WHILE HE CANNOT SPEAK FOR THE U.S. CONGRESS, HE REPRESENTS THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE U.S. AND ASSURED THE MARIANAS DELEGATION THAT HE WOULD BE IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE LEADERS OF THE CONGRESS DURING THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THAT THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL SINCE ANY SOLUTION REACHED BY BOTH SIDES WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

THE AMBASSADOR THEN TURNED TO THE QUESTION OF WHAT HE HOPED WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THESE FIRST INITIAL MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO DELEGATIONS. "FIRST," HE SAID, "WE HOPE THAT OUR VERY PRESENCE HERE THIS AFTERNOON DEMONSTRATES THE SERIOUS INTENT OF MY GOVERNMENT TO TAKE DUE ACCOUNT OF THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF

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THE PEOPLES OF THE MARIANAS AND THEIR DESIRE TO BECOME A PERMANENT PART OF THE AMERICAN FAMILY. SECOND, WE HOPE THAT IN THIS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WE SET FORTH BASIC PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF THESE TALKS, AND TO DISCUSS A TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS, AND FINALLY, WE HOPE TO IDENTIFY MAJOR AREAS FOR FURTHER STUDY IN PREPARATION FOR OUR SUBSEQUENT MEETING THROUGH OPEN EXCHANGE AND LISTENING TO YOU AS WE HAVE."

THE CHAIRMAN THEN LIMITED HIS REMARKS TO THE BROAD AND GENERAL STATEMENTS TOUCHING ON THE AREAS OF FUTURE STATUS, FINANCE AND LAND. ON THE STATUS QUESTION, AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS STATED THAT THE EXACT FORM OF THE FUTURE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE MARIANAS REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT. HE RECALLED THE AMERICAN PROPOSAL OF COMMONWEALTH WHICH WAS OFFERED TO ALL OF MICRONESIA IN 1970 AND THE "INTEREST IN MORE THAN ONE ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING SEPERATE TERRITORIAL STATUS AND REINTEGRATION" WITH GUAM. "SUCH A STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK" THE AMBASSADOR DECLARED, "TAILORED SPECIFICALLY TO THE MARIANAS WOULD AFFORD YOU INTERNAL AUTONOMY WITH REGARD TO LOCAL AFFAIRS AND CERTAIN GUARANTEES AND PRIVILEGES STEMMING FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN SYSTEM INCLUDING BASIC BENEFITS OF A FINANCIAL NATURE." HE POINTED OUT THAT ALL OF THE POLITICAL ENTITIES UNDER THE AMERICAN FLAG, ALTHOUGH DIFFERENT THEY MAY BE, STILL ENJOY CERTAIN THINGS IN COMMON: "1-CERTAIN BASIC RIGHTS AS PROVIDED BY OUR CONSTITUTION, 2-CERTAIN BASIC GUARANTEES AS AMERICAN CITIZENS OR NATIONALS, 3-CERTAIN BASIC OBLIGATIONS, AND 4-CERTAIN BASIC BENEFITS."

TURNING TO THE MATTER OF FINANCE, WILLIAMS SAID THAT THIS VITAL AREA NEEDED FURTHER AND MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION. HE STATED THAT WHILE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND BUDGETARY SUPPORT FROM FEDERAL SOURCES IS SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, HE SUGGESTED THAT ON THE BASIS OF PAST PRACTICE, CONTINUING ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED TO THE MARIANAS WILL GO UNDER THESE CONDITIONS: FEDERAL GRANTS TO THE MARIANAS MATCHING THE REVENUES COLLECTED LOCALLY; NEEDED ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY SUPPORT AS MAY BE REQUIRED UNTIL "SUCH TIME AS THE MARIANAS WOULD HAVE DEVELOPED AN ADEQUATE TAX BASE; AND THE PROVISION OF THE FULL RANGE OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL THE STATES AND TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES..."

ON LAND MATTERS, THE AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE IS AWARE THAT A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF MARIANAS LAND IS PUBLIC TRUST LAND AND EXPRESSED THE U.S. CONCERN ABOUT THE DISPOSITION OF THESE LANDS UPON A CHANGE IN POLITICAL STATUS. HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE U.S. AND THE LEADERS OF THE MARIANAS WILL ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE LAND REQUIREMENTS IN THE MARIANAS DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. "AT THAT POINT,"

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WILLIAMS STATED, "THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR USE OR DISPOSITION OF THESE LARGE LAND HOLDINGS WOULD RESIDE IN THE PEOPLE OF THIS DISTRICT AND YOUR OWN POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES."

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SECT 03 OF 09155

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CSA WASH DC  
CSAF CMC DIA(20) CIA NSA MCCC FILE(1)  
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ZEN/LNO GUAM  
RUHHBAA/LNO KWAJ  
RUHNSAA/COMNAVMARIANAS  
RUHHHQA/CINCPAC  
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UNCLAS (FINAL SECTION OF III)  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/NOT ADDEES PASS INFO  
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(MARIANAS STATUS CONT)

THE AMBASSADOR BRIEFED THE MARIANAS DELEGATION ON U.S. MILITARY LAND NEEDS AND SAID THAT THE STATEMENT WHICH HE MADE AT HANA, MAUI, DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MICRONESIAN STATUS DELEGATIONS IN OCTOBER, 1971, REMAINED VALID, BUT REQUIRED ELABORATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS ENGAGED IN A SERIES OF STUDIES AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT IDENTIFYING FUTURE MILITARY LAND NEEDS IN THE MARIANAS; "AS THE NEGOTIATIONS MOVE TO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS," WILLIAMS INDICATED, "THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WILL BE PREPARED TO PRESENT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS DESIGNED TO SATISFY THE UNITED STATES MILITARY NEEDS WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE BASIC INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS." THE CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. DELEGATION FURTHER MENTIONED THAT CURRENT PLANS CALL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT SERVICE FACILITY FOR THE MILITARY ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN AND REHABILITATION OF THE HARBOR. LIMITED ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS MAINTENANCE, COMMUNICATIONS AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT FACILITIES MIGHT POSSIBLY BE DEVELOPED ON SAIPAN AT ISLEY FIELD AND TANAPAG HARBOR, BUT HE STRESSED THAT THESE WILL NOT CONSTITUTE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS.

THE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION WAS RELATIVELY FORMAL AND RELATIVELY SHORT. WORKING SESSIONS BEGAN ON THURSDAY MORNING (DECEMBER 14) AND WERE SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE INTO THE AFTERNOON. IT WAS EXPECTED THAT A JOINT COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THURSDAY'S MEETINGS.

CURRENT PLANS CALL FOR MOST OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES ON FRIDAY. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, THAT AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS WILL TRAVEL BRIEFLY TO TINIAN AND ROTA ISLANDS SOUTH OF SAIPAN BEFORE HE LEAVES THE TERRITORY. IT WAS ALSO EXPECTED THAT WILLIAMS' DEPUTY, JAMES WILSON, WOULD STOP IN THE EASTERN DISTRICTS OF THE TERRITORY ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE U.S. (NOTE TO EDITORS: THE BROADCAST CENTER ON SAIPAN IS TO PROVIDE ALL T.T. BROADCAST STATIONS WITH TAPE RECORDINGS OF THE PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARIANAS STATUS TALKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ALSO, FOR YOUR INFORMATION, PUBLIC INFORMATION WILL PROVIDE PRINTED COPIES OF ALL STATEMENTS IN A SPECIAL EDITION OF HIGHLIGHTS TO BE DATED DECEMBER 20, 1972.

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