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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1607

CINCPACREP GUAM FOR STATUS LNO TRENT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, TQ, UN
SUBJ: DISCUSSION OF MARIANAS AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
NEGOTIATIONS AT FORTHCOMING TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

1. FROM CONVERSATIONS LAST WEEK WITH [] MEMBERS OF RECENT UN VISITING MISSION TO TTPI, WE GATHER MISSION'S REPORT AND FORTHCOMING TC SESSION WILL BE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF SEPARATE USG TALKS WITH MARIANAS. CRITICISM WILL FOCUS ON RECENTLY ENACTED CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA (COM) RESOLUTION OPPOSING SEPARATE TALKS ON GROUNDS COM SOLE NEGOTIATING AUTHORITY FOR ALL OF MICRONESIA. SOVIETS AND OTHERS ALSO EXPECTED TO MAKE IN REPORT AND IN TC INVIDIOUS COMPARISON BETWEEN RAPID MOVEMENT ON MARIANAS STATUS AND WHAT THEY REGARD AS DELIBERATE FOOT-DRAGGING ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH COM. IMPENDING CIRCULATION BY UN SECRETARIAT OF RECENTLY RECEIVED COMMUNICATIONS FOR MARSHALLS AND PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURES FAVORING SPEARATE NEGOTIATIONS WILL ALSO HELP FUEL CHARGES IN TC THAT US DELAYING NEGOTIATIONS WITH COM IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE FRAGMENTATION OF MICRONESIA.

2. WE BELIEVE WE CAN MAKE STRONG CASE FOR MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS, IN TC, PARTICULARLY IF ARTICULATE AND KNOWLEDGEABLE

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MARIANAS REPS SUCH AS PANGELINAN ATTEND TC SESSION AS PETITIONERS. (WE MUST, HOWEVER, AVOID REPETITION OF LAST FEBRUARY'S SAIPAN MEETING BETWEEN UNVM AND MARIANAS NEGOTIATORS WHERE ONE OF LATTER COMPARED MARIANAS TO RHODESIA TO CONSTERNATION OF MISSION MEMBERS.)

3. USG PRESENTATION TO TC ON FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS WILL BE GREATLY STRENGTHENED IF IN NEXT MONTH USG NEGOTIATORS AND SEN. SALII CAN AT LEAST AGREE PUBLICLY ON TIMETABLE FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH COM. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, BE IN EVEN BETTER POSITION IF SEN. SALII CAN BE PERSUADED TO REPEAT FOR THE RECORD HIS RECENT REPORTED COMMENTS TO PACIFIC DAILY NEWS THAT MARIANAS SEPARATISM IS "UNDERSTANDABLE". IN VIEW OF OUR FREQUENTLY STATED POSITION THAT SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MARIANAS ARE AN EXCEPTION, BASED ON SPECIAL HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES, TO OUR DESIRE TO PRESERVE UNITY OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, USUN RECOMMENDS THAT WE DISAVOW AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL EFFORTS OF MARSHALLS AND PALAU TO PROMOTE SEPARATE TALKS.

4. AS USUN HAS NOTED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGES, TC SESSION THIS JUNE WHICH PRODUCED VERY NEGATIVE IMAGE OF US POLITICAL STEWARDSHIP IN MICRONESIA WOULD DAMAGE OUR CREDIBILITY IN ARGUING OUR CASE ON PUERTO RICO AND PANAMA CANAL TO UNGA THIS FALL.
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