

SECOND ROUND RESUMED

SAIPAN-Tuesday, the second round of talks resumed between the United States and the Marianas status delegation. Although, this is the second, it may very well be the first major one. The first one, as was phrased by senator Olympio Borja, was only a "joint communique" between the negotiating parties. This time the chairman of the Marianas delegation dicated at the brief ceremony at the Royal Plaza that the Marianas delegation has prepared two position papers "dealing with political status and economics."

Senator Edward DLG. Pangolinan noted that a lot of work has gone into the papers since last December. He expressed hope that the U.S. delegation will give them careful consideration and that the Marianas delegation looks

(Continued on page 12)

TALKS.....

forward to further exploring the papers with the U.S. delegation during their "working sessions". He added that other papers may be forthcoming.

He also cautioned that agreements on the issues may not be easy even though the two negotiating parties are in general agreement on the ultimate union of the Marianas and the United States. Furthermore he was not looking for..."deceptively simple solutions of complex problems which would not be tolerated by their constituents and their descendants.

He acknowledged the ultimate necessity for the Marianas Commissions to report to the District legislature and to the people on the agreements or issues reached or aired at these talks.

Ambassador Williams, Chairman of the U.S. Delegation was also optimistic in his opening remarks about the general outcome of the talks and that the desire of the Marianas and the United States can be "realized under a commonwealth arrangement within the guidelines laid down in the American Constitution."