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INFO OCT-01 10-12 EA-11 L-03 PM-07 PA-03

1045 W  
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Micro status

P 230615Z MAY 73 ZNZ1  
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN  
TO ALDISTAD TERPACIS  
LNO GUAM  
LNO KWAJ  
COMNAVAMARIANAS  
CINCPAC  
CINCPACREPGUAM/TTPI  
USNAVINSERVO GUAM  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA  
SECSTATE  
HQ USARBCO-MACHINATO/TTPI-LNO  
SEC DEF  
JCS  
CNO  
CHINFO  
CINCPACFLT  
CINCPACAF  
USMISSION USUN NY

CGFMFPAC  
COMCBPAC  
NAVFACENGCOR HQRTS  
PACDIVNAVFACENGCOR  
HICOMTERPACIS LNO HONO  
SAMTEC/CEI VAFB CA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY B. H. BAAS DATE 3/25/87

RDS  or XDS  EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED  RELEASABLE

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UNCLAS (SECTION I OF IV)  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/NOT ADEES PASS INFO  
CANBERRA FOR POL SECTION  
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS  
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA/OSN  
TTPI NO. 292

UNCLASSIFIED

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 231318Z

(SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOLD)

SAIPAN MAY 23 (MNS)---WITH THE CHAIRMEN OF BOTH THE MARIANAS AND U.S. DELEGATIONS EXPRESSING PLEASURE AT THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING SO FAR, THE MARIANA ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS NEGOTIATIONS MOVED INTO CONSIDERATION OF SUCH AREAS AS FINANCE AND LAND MATTERS WEDNESDAY (MAY 23), AFTER ANNOUNCING THAT GENERAL UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN REACHED ON THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE U.S.-MARIANAS FUTURE RELATIONSHIP.

PAGE THREE RUHGSAA6094 UNCLAS

THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAME AT THE MID-POINT OF THE SECOND WEEK IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH ARE BEING CONDUCTED ON SAIPAN. HERE IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF A JOINT STATEMENT RELEASED BY THE TWO DELEGATIONS:

SENATOR EDWARD PANGELINAN AND AMBASSADOR HAYDN WILLIAMS, CHAIRMEN RESPECTIVELY OF THE MARIANAS AND AMERICAN DELEGATIONS TO THE MARIANAS STATUS TALKS, SAID WEDNESDAY THEIR DELEGATIONS HAVE REACHED BROAD PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING ON MOST ASPECTS OF THE MARIANAS-U.S. POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP ENVISAGED UNDER A COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENT FOR THE MARIANAS.

THEY INDICATED THAT AT THIS EARLY STATE OF DELIBERATIONS THE MAIN EFFORT HAS BEEN TO HIGHLIGHT AREAS OF TENTATIVE AGREEMENT AND TO IDENTIFY TECHNICAL QUESTIONS REQUIRING FURTHER STUDY AND DISCUSSION, RATHER THAN TO EXPLORE THE PRECISE LANGUAGE OF AN ULTIMATE STATUS AGREEMENT.

IN DESCRIBING THE PRELIMINARY NATURE OF THEIR UNDERSTANDINGS, SENATOR PANGELINAN AND THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED THAT, IN ANY CASE, THE INSTRUMENT OF AGREEMENT EMERGING FROM THIS AND POSSIBLE FUTURE NEGOTIATING ROUNDS WILL HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS,

PAGE FOUR RUHGSAA6094 UNCLAS

AND THE U.S. CONGRESS. THE TWO CHAIRMEN BELIEVE, NONETHELESS, THAT THE PRESENT CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT FOUNDATION FOR A SUBSEQUENT INSTRUMENT OF AGREEMENT.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 231318Z

THE TWO CHAIRMEN INDICATED THAT PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON A COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL BEST SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE MARIANAS IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT UNDER A TERRITORIAL RELATIONSHIP AND PERMIT MAXIMUM MARIANAS CONTROL OVER LOCAL AFFAIRS. THIS WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER A LOCALLY-DRAFTED, LOCALLY-APPROVED CONSTITUTION PROVIDING FOR A BILL OF RIGHTS, SEPARATION OF POWERS, AND A POPULARLY ELECTED CHIEF EXECUTIVE. THERE ARE ALSO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL TENTATIVE UNDERSTANDINGS: THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THOUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL WELCOME THE ADVICE OF THE MARIANAS ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS DIRECTLY AFFECTING THE ISLANDS. MOREOVER, THE U.S. WILL SUPPORT THE MARIANAS' MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, OR COMPARABLE AREAS OF INTEREST WHICH PERMIT REPRESENTATION FROM CONSTITUENT PARTS OF A POLITICAL FAMILY.

PAGE FIVE RUHGSAA6094 UNCLAS

WHILE THE JUDICIAL SYSTEMS OF THE MARIANAS AND THE U.S. WILL BE COMPATIBLE AND CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW, THE MARIANAS WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO ESTABLISH LOCAL COURTS FOR PURELY LOCAL MATTERS. THE TWO SIDES WILL EXPLORE A COMMON APPROACH TO THE U.S. CONGRESS REGARDING THE NATURE OF THE MARIANAS' REPRESENTATION IN WASHINGTON.

THE TWO DELEGATIONS ARE AGREED THAT FURTHER JOINT STUDY IS NECESSARY ON THE APPLICABILITY TO THE MARIANAS OF SPECIFIC U.S. LAWS, THE PRECISE EXTENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT TO BE EXERCISED BY THE MARIANAS UNDER THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND RELEVANT FEDERAL LEGISLATION, AND THE STATUS TO BE ACCORDED THOSE RESIDENTS OF THE MARIANAS WHO MIGHT NOT WISH TO BECOME AMERICAN CITIZENS. SUBPANELS OF LAWYERS FROM THE TWO DELEGATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN A USEFUL EXPLORATION OF THESE LARGELY TECHNICAL MATTERS AND WILL CONTINUE THEIR DELIBERATIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THE PRESENT TALKS AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN WASHINGTON.

THE TWO CHAIRMEN NOTED THAT THE AREA OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP IS SUFFICIENTLY BROAD TO WARRANT THE DELEGATIONS' MOVING NOW TO CONSIDERATION OF SUCH OTHER MAJOR AGENDA ITEMS AS ECONOMICS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 231318Z

PAGE SIX RHHGSAA6094 UNCLAS  
AND FINANCE, LAND AND TRANSITION. THE NEXT WORKING SESSION  
MOF THE TWO DELEGATIONS WAS TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON,  
MAY 23.

(ASTRONAUTS TO VISIT SAIPAN, MAJURO)

SAIPAN MAY 23 (MNS)---APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUTS EUGENE A.  
CERNAN, RONALD E. EVANS, AND HARRISON H. SCHMITT WILL VISIT  
SAIPAN AND MAJURO IN THE TRUST TERRITORY LATE NEXT MONTH, AS  
PART OF A WORLDWIDE GOODWILL TOUR ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON BY  
PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON. THE THREE ASTRONAUTS ARE SCHEDULED  
TO BE ON SAIPAN JUNE 29 TO JULY 1, AND ON MAJURO FOR SEVERAL  
HOURS LATER ON JULY 1. THEY WILL BE TRAVELLING BY SPECIAL  
MILITARY AIRCRAFT.

IN ANNOUNCING THE TRIP, PRESIDENT NIXON SAID THE TOUR,  
LIKE PREVIOUS OVERSEAS TOURS OF AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS, WILL BE A  
PRESIDENTIAL GOODWILL MISSION IN THE "SPIRIT OF APOLLO." THE  
ASTRONAUTS WILL SHARE THEIR FINDINGS OF THE APOLLO MISSION WITH  
THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES OF THE COUNTRIES VISITED AND, WHERE  
APPROPRIATE, WILL ALSO ADDRESS UNIVERSITY AUDIENCES. THROUGH  
SUCH GOODWILL TOURS THE U.S. HAS SOUGHT TO SHARE SPACE  
KNOWLEDGE WITH OTHER NATIONS AND TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL SPACE

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