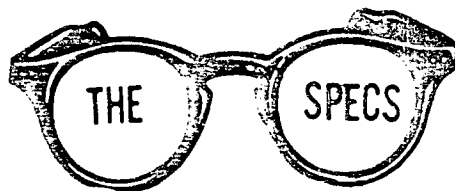


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BY VIC PANGELINAN

The dissemination of the position papers (status talks) might have been earlier if Senator Edward DLG. Pangelinan had had his way.

According to an insider, soon after the second round of negotiations which ended June 4, the senator asked members of the commission and the U. S. delegation if the position papers could be made public. The Marianas team, the source said, had no objection to the senator's proposal, however, the U. S. delegation had thoughts of their own.

It appeared that Mr. James M. Wilson, Jr. of the U.S. lip team approached Chairman Pangelinan and somehow tried to sweet talk the Marianas representative **not to say** anymore about the position papers. Seemingly at first, the senator took heed to Mr. Wilson's alluring words. Whether he did this to show the American his "savoir-vivre" or perhaps he had other things in mind.

Nonetheless, the papers came out - and they came out in abundance. Now government employees, businessmen and even students have copies of the position papers. It would hardly surprise me to find Xeroxed copies of the historic talks being sold at newsstands. The tourists would really go wild over **them**.

In any event, we can say that our commission is not trying to conceal anything from us but perhaps the other side would prefer that it does.

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