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(Status LNO:MVTrent  
Nov. 22, 1973)

TO: SECRETARY WASHINGTON DC  
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA  
WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC  
JCS WASHINGTON DC  
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
CINCPA&REP GUAM/TTPI GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS  
US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY  
AMEMB TOKYO

U N C L A S S I F I E D

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASED  
ON 11-10-1985 UNDER PRO-  
VISIONS OF E.O. 12356 BY  
YMC S D.R. COLAN, USN  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OMSN

FROM STATUS LNO 199c

PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN ACTION  
PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA INFO  
COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS  
WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC  
STATE FOR EA/ANP, IO/ANP  
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA, CSAF FOR PR XO  
USUN FOR AMB WHITE  
TOKYO FOR POL

SUBJ: FURTHER COMMENTS RE FORTHCOMING MARIANAS STATUS NEGOTIATIONS  
REF: STATUS LNO 196c

1. (C) TINIAN LAND ISSUE PROVIDED FOCUS OF COMMENTS BY MARIANAS POLITICAL  
STATUS COMMISSION (MPSC) VICE CHAIRMAN BEN SANTOS IN CONVERSATION WITH ME  
NOV 20. SANTOS SAID HE THOUGHT EXTENT OF US MILITARY REQUIREMENTS ON TINIAN  
WOULD BE PRINCIPAL SUBJECT FOR FORTHCOMING MPSC TALKS. IN THIS CONNECTION  
SANTOS SAID HE HOPED ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT FOR JOINT USE OF PORT  
AND WEST FIELD WITH RETENTION OF VILLAGE ON PRESENT SITE. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT  
PEOPLE ON TINIAN HAD NO DEEP-ROOTED TRADITIONAL HOLD ON LAND, HE NEVERTHELESS  
SAID THEY NEEDED TO HAVE SOME ASSURANCE OF POSSESSION AND THEREFORE US PRO-  
POSAL FOR ACQUISITION OF ENTIRE ISLAND WITH LEASE BACK OF SOUTHERN THIRD WAS  
UNACCEPTABLE.

2. (C) SAME POINT WAS MADE VIGOROUSLY TO ME SAME DAY BY MPSC COUNSEL JIM  
WHITE WHO SAID "NO WAY" TO LEASE BACK PROPOSAL. WHITE SAID MPSC NEEDS AND  
EXPECTS SOMETHING TANGIBLE TO COME OUT OF NEXT ROUND, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD  
TO TINIAN. HE SUGGESTED IN THIS CONNECTION PRESENTATION OF ACTUAL PLANS FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF A HOSPITAL OR POWER PLANT. HE SAID: "WE ARE READY FOR SPE-  
CIFICS AND WE HOPE THEY WILL BE FORTHCOMING."

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3. (c) ADDITIONAL POINT IN CONVERSATION WITH SANTOS WAS HIS RECOUNTING OF HIS OWN STANDING AS A LANDHOLDER ON TINIAN. HE SAID THAT "BEFORE LAST MAY" (MPSC II) HE HAD BOUGHT 5 HECTARES NEAR WEST FIELD FOR \$12,000 AND HAD EXPECTED TO LEASE TRACT TO HOTEL DEVELOPMENT INTEREST. ELDERLY RELATIVE FROM WHOM HE ACQUIRED THE SITE HAD HOMESTEADED IT FOR \$10 HE SAID.

4. (c) SANTOS OFFERED ILLUSTRATION OF WHAT IS HAPPENING TO SAIPAN LAND VALUES. HE SAID A BEACHFRONT TRACT FOR WHICH HE PAID \$23,000 IN 1969 IS NOW VALUED AT \$250,000 AND HE HAS RENTED IT OUT ON A 20-YEAR RENEWABLE LEASE FOR \$2500 PER MONTH.

5. (c) ON TINIAN POLITICS SANTOS, WHO IS HARDLY IN A POSITION TO POINT ANY ACCUSING FINGERS, REFRAINED FROM DOING SO BUT NOTED THAT MAYOR BORJA IS HAVING SOME TROUBLES. SANTOS OFFERED THE SURPRISING INFORMATION THAT THE MAYOR IS ACTUALLY OKINAWAN AND THAT "BORJA" IS AN ACQUIRED CATHOLIC NAME.

6. (c) AN AMERICAN LONG-TIME TT EMPLOYEE TOLD ME MAYOR BORJA HAD COMMENTED PRIVATELY A FEW DAYS AGO THAT PRACTICALLY EVERYBODY ON TINIAN WANTS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH U.S. EXCEPT (EX\*SPEAKER) MENDIOLA WHO FAVORS JAPAN.

7. (c) SAME SOURCE DESCRIBED NEW MPSC MEMBER JOE CRUZ AS "SHIFTY, WITHOUT PRINCIPLES" AND SAID HE HAD LOST SEAT IN SENATE AND BEEN "KICKED OUT OF SAIPAN" SEVERAL YEARS AGO BECAUSE OF HIS DESERTION OF WIFE AND FIVE CHILDREN. (COMMENT: REMARRIED AND ESTABLISHED ON TINIAN, CRUZ APPEARS TO BE MAKING HIS WAY BACK INTO MARIANAS POLITICS. HIS DRAMATIC ESPOUSAL OF THE POPULAR PRO-ST PIERRE CAUSE (STATUS LNO 198) CAN BE READ IN THIS LIGHT.)

8. (c) HINT OF ANOTHER SUBJECT THAT MAY COME UP DURING MPSC III IS SEEN IN RESOLUTION BY RECENT SESSION OF SAIPAN MUNICIPAL LEGISLATURE THAT ALL BUSINESS PERMITS ISSUED UNDER FOREIGN INVESTORS BUSINESS PERMIT ACT SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO RENEGOTIATION FOLLOWING ANY CHANGE IN MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS.

9. (c) USDEL TO MPSC III WILL FIND CONSPICUOUS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING TOURIST-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENTS ON SAIPAN. MOST ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ IS (RELATIVELY) HIGH RISE

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CONTINENTAL HOTEL CONSTRUCTION. ON DEC 7-9 SOME 1500 JAPANESE WILL BE ON THE ISLAND, SAIPAN'S BIGGEST POST-WW II INFLUX. MOST OF THESE VISITORS WILL BE ABOARD TWO CRUISE SHIPS, ONE OF WHICH WILL BRING A PARTY INCLUDING 500 LDP MEMBERS (STATUS LNO 191). THE BALANCE, CONSISTING OF THE WAR REMAINS ON THEIR OWN SHIP RETRIEVAL MISSION RETURNING/FROM THE MARSHALLS, WILL ARRIVE ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE OF DATES ON DECEMBER 7.

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