

[Disclassified]

10/5

HICOMTERFACIS
SAIPAN
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI
GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK UNCLASSIFIED

STATUS LNO
TRENT

FROM STATUS LNO NO. 208

PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN (ACTION) AND DOTA (INFO)
COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS
WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC
STATE FOR EA/ANP, IO/UNP
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA
PASS JUSTICE FOR MARCUSE (OLC)
USUN FOR AMB WHITE

SUBJ:: MPSC CHAIRMAN COMMENTS ON STATUS TALKS

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IN INTERVIEW WITH PACIFIC DAILY NEWS SAIPAN STAFFER DIANNE MADDEX, CARRIED PDN DEC 1, SEN EDWARD PANGELINAN, CHAIRMAN OF MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, SAID HE THOUGHT THERE IS "LESSON TO BE LEARNED" FROM WHAT WRITER CALLS "LAST WEEK'S BREAKDOWN" OF JOINT TALKS IN WASHINGTON. PANGELINAN SAID ONE LESSON IS THAT U.S. IS "HARD PRESSED FOR MONEY" WHEN IT COMES TO FUTURE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR MICRONESIA. "I THINK THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S REQUEST WAS LEGITIMATE. THE QUESTION IS WHY THE U.S. DECIDED NOT TO HONOR IT."

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WITH RESPECT TO MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS SENATOR TOLD INTERVIEWER: "YOU HAVE TO KEEP IN MIND OUR PROPOSED RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES, IN CONTRAST TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S, BECAUSE WE'RE NEGOTIATING FOR A CLOSER ASSOCIATION, THE U.S.'S SENTIMENT TO ASSIST THE MARIANAS MORE IS MORE LEGITIMATE, AND WE HOPE THE U.S. APPRECIATES THIS."

REFERRING TO PROSPECT FOR SOME SORT OF BARGAINING, ACCORDING TO INTERVIEWER, PANGELINAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING: "WE'VE REEVALUATED OUR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND WE'RE NOW IN POSITION TO DISCUSS THEM IN GREATER DETAIL WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION." HE DECLINED, HOWEVER TO INDICATE ~~XXXXXXXX~~ WHETHER MPSC REQUIRED LEVEL OF SUPPORT HAS CHANGED. "IT WOULDN'T BE IN EITHER SIDE'S INTEREST TO COME TO A DEADLOCK," HE SAID. "IF WE FACE A SITUATION WHERE NEGOTIATIONS CANNOT MOVE FORWARD, WE COULD RECESS AND REEVALUATE OUR PROBLEMS. THAT'S THE POSITION WE TOOK IN THE LAST NEGOTIATIONS. OUR HOPE IS TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH IN ALL AREAS AND COME UP WITH THE COMPROMISES THAT WILL GIVE US SOLUTIONS SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES."

LNO

PANGELINAN EXPRESSED HOPE FOR DECISION ON MAJOR QUESTIONS, BUT

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COMMENTED THAT HE COULDN'T COUNT ON IT SINCE TALKS WERE TO CONCLUDE DEC 19 (SIC). HE POINTED OUT THAT THREE MAJOR QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ARE NATURE OF THE POLITICAL STATUS ARRANGEMENT, FINANCES, AND MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING TINIAN. HE CALLED ALL "EQUALLY IMPORTANT."

ARTICLE REPORTS THAT ALTHOUGH NO SCHEDULE HAS BEEN SET, MPSC PLANS TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS "NEXT WEEK" ON SAIPAN, TINIAN AND ROTA TO EXPLAIN THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

TRENT

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