

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

12/2/73
Mar. III 10/5
Dec 21

FROM	HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN	INFORMATION	US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK	CLASSIFICATION	UNCLASSIFIED	ORIGINATOR	STATUS LNO TRENT
TO	SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC CINCPAC HONOLULU HI CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS	PRECEDENCE	PRECEDENCE	DATE TIME GROUP	0205 35Z Dec	CLEARANCES	

FROM STATUS LNO NO. 208

PASS INTERIOR FOR OPSN (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

~~REF STATES LNO~~

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 ~~XXXXXX~~ 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."

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.

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