

Mar IV 03/516
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MESSAGE HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS
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MAIL
TRENT

FROM: CINCPAC REP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

TO: SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
 COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
 WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
 JCS WASHINGTON DC
 CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY
 AMEMB CANBERRA AS -
 AMEMB MANILA RP -
 AMEMB TOKYO JA

0 03 (4 COPIES)
 INFO 00/01/08
 TOR 031032Z JUN
 TOD DSTE 031332Z JUN/12
 Pass To 08

JUN 11 1974

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FROM STATUS LNO 16EC

PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN ACTION

PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA INFO

COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC

STATE FOR EA/ANP, 10/UNP

DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASED
 ON JUL 10 1985 UNDER PRO-
 VISIONS OF E.O. 12356 BY
 YNCS D.R.DOLAN, USN
 SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OMSN

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AMB. F.H. WILLIAMS		00/01/03 (4 COPIES) / 08	
CDR H.R. WESTLAKE, 03,349-5203		UNCLASSIFIED	
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USUN FOR AMB WHITE
FROM:
AMEMB CANBERRA FOR POL
TO:
AMEMB MANILA FOR POL
AMEMB TOKYO FOR POL
SUBJECT: MARIANAS IV: ROUNDUP REPORT
REFERENCE: STATUS LNO 164

1. (C) SUMMARY: TEXT OF FINAL JOINT COMMUNIQUE (REFTEL) GIVES FACTUAL REPORT OF RESULTS FOURTH ROUND MARIANAS STATUS TALKS HELD ON SAIPAN MAY 15-31. THIS CABLE PRESENTS COMMENTARY ON ATMOSPHERE AND COURSE OF DEVELOPMENTS DURING ROUND IV WHICH DEALT WITH KEY ISSUES OF LAND (ESPECIALLY U.S. MILITARY LAND NEEDS), ECONOMICS AND FINANCE, POLITICAL RELATIONSHIPS TO BE REFLECTED AND DEFINED IN AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO PARTIES AND FOR FIRST TIME, SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION. BASIC U.S. POLITICAL AND MILITARY REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN SATISFIED ON ALL PRINCIPAL POINTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS' INSTRUCTIONS.

2. (C) LAND. AMBASSADOR SUCCEEDED IN ACQUIRING ALL LAND NEEDED TO MEET U.S. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS, BUT ONLY AS RESULT OF LONG, HARD

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BARGAINING. INITIAL PROSPECTS WERE NOT ENCOURAGING. LAND WAS MAJOR
 FROM: ITEM ON AGENDA, ESPECIALLY U.S. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS, DISCUSSION OF
 TO: WHICH COMPRISED SOME THREE-FOURTHS OF NEGOTIATING PERIOD. FIRST TWO
 DAYS WERE DEVOTED TO PRESENTATION BY AMB. WILLIAMS AND PACAF BRIEFER
 OF U.S. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING REVISED REQUIREMENTS FOR
 TINIAN. ELIMINATION OF NEED TO RELOCATE SAN JOSE VILLAGE CAUGHT
 MPSC BY SURPRISE AND INITIALLY STRONG AND RATHER CRITICAL FEELINGS
 WERE VOICED BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ON THIS SCORE. PRIVATE EXPRESSIONS
 OF DISAPPOINTMENT WERE EVEN STRONGER, WITH BLAME BEING PLACED ON FEW
 LOCAL POLITICIANS AND MDC (MICRONESIAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY - JONES
 RANCH) FOR LOSS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW VILLAGE. GENERAL MOOD WAS
 SOMBRE AND INITIAL PROSPECTS WERE NOT BRIGHT FOR ACCEPTANCE DOD
 REVISED PLAN.

3. (C) LAND CONTINUED TO BE LEADING ITEM OF DISCUSSION AND BACK-
 GROUND THINKING DURING JOINT VISITS MAY 17-19 BY US DEL AND MPSC TO
 ROTA AND TINIAN. CRITICAL POINT CAME AT TIME OF ADDITIONAL SUBSE-
 QUENT JOINT VISIT MAY 22 TO TINIAN WHEN AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED IN DE-
 TAIL TO PEOPLE OF TINIAN AT SIX-HOUR PUBLIC MEETING OUR REVISED BASE

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PLAN ELIMINATING NEED FOR RELOCATION OF VILLAGE AND REDUCING TOTAL
 FROM: ACREAGE REQUIRED. DESPITE PRESENCE OF ACTIVIST OPPOSITION LEAD BY
 TO: GUAM LAWYER AND CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR JOAQUIN ARRIOLA AND LARGE
 TINIAN LAND LESSOR RANCHER KEN JONES, AND HIS ENTOURAGE FROM GUAM,
 REBUTTAL EFFORTS WERE SURPRISINGLY WEAK AND INEFFECTIVE. MOST
 PERSISTENT ARGUMENTATION CAME FROM MAYOR BORJA WHO CONTENDED THAT
 TINIAN SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO FUNDS PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN U.S. PLAN
 AS COST OF VILLAGE RELOCATION. HE REPEATEDLY ASKED IF RELOCATION
 OPTION STILL OPEN. HE AND OTHERS OF HIS PERSUASION SHOWED STRONG
 DISAPPOINTMENT WHEN TOLD NO.

4. (C) FOR SEVERAL DAYS FOLLOWING TINIAN SESSION NEGOTIATIONS WERE
 IN ABEYANCE WHILE MPSC HELD ITS OWN CONSULTATIONS. REQUESTS WERE
 MADE FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND DURING THIS PERIOD
 PRIVATE TALKS WERE HELD BETWEEN THE PRINCIPALS ON THE MPSC SIDE AND
 THE AMBASSADOR. WHEN NEGOTIATING SESSIONS RESUMED, MPSC GAVE ITS
 AGREEMENT TO ALL U.S. MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING FARALLON
 DE MEDINALLA AND SPECIFIED ACREAGE ON SAIPAN AND TINIAN. MPSC
 STATED HOWEVER, THAT ITS AGREEMENT WAS CONTINGENT UPON REACHING

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SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING PHASE II FINANCING, AND POINTING TO HIGH SENSITIVITY OF SUBJECT REQUESTED THAT MATTER BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE PENDING OUTCOME DISCUSSION ON FINANCE. AMBASSADOR IMMEDIATELY MADE CLEAR THAT HE COULD NOT RECOGNIZE SUCH CONDITIONAL RELATION BETWEEN THESE TWO ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATIONS, BUT IN INTEREST OF PROGRESS OF TALKS, WOULD INSTRUCT U.S. DELEGATION TO RESPECT MPSC REQUESTS, WITH AGREEMENT ON FINANCE HAVING BEEN ACHIEVED LATER, [SEE BELOW] WRAPS WERE OFF BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT MAY 30.

5. {U} DETAILS CONCERNING JOINT USE OF FACILITIES, LEASE AND LEASE LAND USE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE SUBJECT FOR CONSIDERATION BY US/MARIAN-AS LAND COMMITTEE. MPSC HAS NAMED BEN MANGLONA, JOE CRUZ AND PETE TENORIO AS ITS REPRESENTATIVES ON THIS COMMITTEE. U.S. GAVE ITS PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON FUNCTIONS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE BUT DID NOT MENTION BY NAME ITS REPRESENTATIVES.

6. {U} IN PRESS CONFERENCE ON SITE ON MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 28, FOLLOWING WREATH LAYING AT AMERICAN WWII MONUMENT AND MONUMENT FOR SAIPAN- ESE AND CAROLINIANS, AMBASSADOR REVEALED PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR CREATING AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK AT MICRO BEACH AREA ON SAIPAN.

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PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY WAS MPSC CHAIRMAN PANGELINAN'S COMMENTS ON THE OCCASION, WELCOMING THE CONCEPT AND UNDERSCORING AMBASSADOR'S POINTS THAT USE OF MILITARY RETENTION LAND AS A MEMORIAL PARK WOULD RETAIN ATTRACTIVE BEACH AREA FOR PUBLIC ACCESS AND ENJOYMENT.

7. (C) TERMS OF ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR U.S. REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING RENEGOTIATION OF LEASES OF CURRENT MILITARY RETENTION LANDS WERE NOT SETTLED IN COURSE OF THIS ROUND. THE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON PURCHASE VS LEASE, LUMP SUM PAYMENT, AND METHOD FOR DETERMINING FAIR MARKET VALUE.

8. (C) THE MPSC SHOWED NO SIGN OF YIELDING ON THE PURCHASE ISSUE AND SAID THAT LAND WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE ONLY ON A LEASE BASIS. MPSC WILLING TO LEASE THE LANDS COVERED IN AGREEMENT FOR FIFTY YEARS WITH AUTOMATIC RENEWAL FOR ANOTHER FIFTY YEARS AT THE OPTION OF THE U.S. MPSC ALSO REFUSED TO ACCEPT U.S. PROPOSAL FOR ONE LUMP SUM PAYMENT FOR ALL OF THE LAND COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT AND ALSO REJECTED FOR THE MOST PART U.S. SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE. CLEAR MPSC WISHES TO GO INDEPENDENT APPRAISER ROUTE AND NEGOTIATIONS FOR PRICE TO BE PAID FOR LAND PROMISES TO BE

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TOUGH, GIVEN EARLY INDICATIONS OF VALUE BEING ATTACHED TO LAND BY THE MPSC. AGREED TO THAT JOINT LAND COMMITTEE WOULD BE GIVEN TASK OF DISCUSSING FURTHER METHOD OF ACQUISITION TERMS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE USE OF MILITARY ACQUIRED LAND INCLUDING LEASE BACK AGREEMENT.

9. (C) MPSC REMAINED HESITANT ON SUBJECT OF LAND ALIENATION, AND INQUIRED WHETHER IT WOULD BE CONSTITUTIONALLY PERMISSABLE TO LIMIT ALIENATION OF LAND TO PERSONS OF NORTHERN MARIANAS DESCENT. U.S. RESPONDED THAT CAREFULLY DRAFTED LEGISLATION TO THAT EFFECT WOULD PROBABLY BE UPHeld BY THE COURTS. U.S. POINTED TO FEDERAL DESIRE TO PREVENT EXPLOITATION BY OUTSIDERS AND ECONOMIC CONCENTRATION OF LAND IN A FEW HANDS, BOTH OF WHICH IN ADDITION TO CONSIDERATIONS OF PROTECTION AND PRACTICALITY, MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE PROSPECTIVE U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS.

10. (C) MPSC TOOK POSITION THAT QUESTIONS OF LAND ALIENATION AND DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC LANDS ARE OF INTERNAL NATURE AND THEREFORE BELONG IN CONSTITUTION OF NORTHERN MARIANAS RATHER THAN IN STATUS AGREEMENT. COMMENT: CONSIDERING RISING LAND VALUES IN MARIANAS

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AND LIKELY AFFECT IN SHORT RUN OF WHAT MIGHT LOOK TO BE HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE OUTSIDE OFFERS. MARIANAS RISKS RAPID LOSS OF VALUABLE AND SCARCE PATRIMONY UNLESS ALIENATION IS PREVENTED. THE ISSUE WAS REFERRED TO JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE WHICH WAS SET UP WITH ASSIGNMENT OF PRODUCING DRAFT STATUS AGREEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT ROUND.

11. (C) MPSC POSITION REMAINED SOMEWHAT UNCLEAR ON IMPORTANT ISSUE OF EMINENT DOMAIN. IN COMMENT ON MPSC PAPER OF LAST DECEMBER, U.S. SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH THIS PRINCIPLE FIRMLY AS AN ESSENTIAL POINT OF THE PROSPECTIVE COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENT UNDER U.S. SOVEREIGNTY. MPSC RESPONSE OFFERED SOME ENCOURAGEMENT. DISCUSSIONS INDICATED THAT COMMISSION'S CONCERN LAY IN ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES BY WHICH THE FUTURE COMMONWEALTH COULD EXPRESS ITS VIEWS WHEN RIGHT OF EMINENT DOMAIN WOULD BE EXERCISED.

12. (C) ECONOMICS AND FINANCE. APPROVAL OF JOINT ADHOC PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ON TRANSITION (PHASE 1), FOR WHOSE ACTIVITIES U.S. WILL MAKE AVAILABLE \$1.2 MILLION, OPENED WAY FOR MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY

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PROGRESS IN DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE. HOWEVER, FINANCING FOR PHASE II (INITIAL PERIOD FOLLOWING INSTALLATION OF NEW COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT) CALLED FOR SOME REVISIONS ON OUR PART. IN POSITION PAPER TABLED ON MAY 15, MPSC CONTENDED THAT U.S. APPEARED MORE CONCERNED WITH GOAL OF ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY THAN ESTABLISHING A BASE FOR GENERATING ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF INCOME AND PUBLIC SERVICES. MPSC STRESSED ITS PRIMARY GOAL AS ACHIEVEMENT WITHIN REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME OF LIVING STANDARDS IN MARIANAS COMPARABLE TO THOSE ENJOYED BY OTHER AMERICANS. MPSC TENDED MINIMIZE VALUE OF OTHER INCOME AND RESOURCES IN ADDITION TO U.S. GRANT WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE TO COMMONWEALTH. MPSC PAPER REQUESTED \$16 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR PHASE II AS OPPOSED TO U.S. \$11.5 MILLION, LARGEST DIFFERENCES BEING IN OPERATIONS AND CIP. PAPER PROPOSED AGAIN FOR 7-YEAR PERIOD FOR PHASE II IN CONTRAST TO U.S. POSITION OF 5 YEARS.

13. (C) AMBASSADOR'S RESPONSE OF MAY 28 ASSURED MPSC OF OUR CONCERN FOR ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE OF NORTHERN MARIANAS. HIS STATEMENT THAT U.S. COMMITMENT IS IN TERMS OF CONSTANT 1975 DOLLARS BROUGHT FAVORABLE RESPONSE, AS DID HIS STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD SEEK

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AUTHORITY TO EXTEND U.S. PHASE II COMMITMENT TO SEVEN YEARS AND TO COMMIT AN ADDITIONAL \$500 THOUSAND FOR GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. MPSC SOUGHT ANOTHER \$1.5 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR CIP ON GROUNDS NEGLECT OF OUTER ISLANDS IN RECENT YEARS, ESPECIALLY TINIAN AND ROTA. AMBASSADOR'S AGREEMENT SEEK EXTRA FUNDS FOR THESE TWO ISLANDS EVOKED MOVING RESPONSE FROM THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

14. (U) FINAL RESULT PHASE II OFFER INCLUDING FUNDS FOR WHICH AUTHORITY WILL BE SOUGHT: \$13.5 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR 7 YEARS STATED IN CONSTANT 1975 DOLLARS; 8 MILLION FOR OPERATIONS; \$4 MILLION FOR CIP OF WHICH \$500 THOUSAND FOR TINIAN AND \$500 THOUSAND FOR ROTA; \$1.5 MILLION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS OF WHICH \$500 THOUSAND FOR FARMERS, FISHERMEN AND COOPERATIVES. AMBASSADOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE COULD NOT COMMIT THE U.S. TO THE INCREASED LEVELS FOR GOVT OPERATIONS {\$500,000} AND CIP {\$1 MILLION} BUT THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND THESE INCREASES. IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT IN ANY EVENT ALL FUNDING WOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

15. (U) WE ALSO AGREED TRY TO START PHASE II IN FY 1977 (RATHER THAN FY 1978 AS ASSUMED BY MPSC); AGREED SEEK WAYS AFFORD MPSC

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FROM: FLEXIBILITY IN CARRYING OVER UNEXPENDED FUNDS AND REPROGRAM SUCH
 TO: UNEXPENDED FUNDS IN SUCCEEDING YEARS. FINALLY, TO RECOMMEND TO
 DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR THAT FUNDING FOR \$4.5 MILLION STEAM POWER
 PLANT FOR SAIPAN BE MOVED FORWARD TO 1976 RATHER THAN 1977 AS PRO-
 POSED IN TT BUDGET.

16. (C) STATUS AGREEMENT (POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP) DESPITE CLEAR,
 REPEATED AND CONFIRMED PRE-SESSION AGREEMENT THAT MARIANAS IV WOULD
 REVIEW U.S. DRAFT COVENANT WHICH HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO MPSC LAST
 DECEMBER, MPSC PRESENTED ITS OWN PARTIAL DRAFT AGREEMENT, A VOLUMIN-
 OUS WORK OF 62 PAGES ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED PAGES OF EXPLANA-
 TORY LEGAL MATERIAL PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION'S COUNSEL. THIS
 MANEUVER THREATENED AT OUTSET TO DERAIL THE TALKS. TABLING OF DRAFT
 IN FACE OF EARLIER AGREEMENT TO CONSIDER THE U.S. DRAFT NOT ONLY
 RAISED PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS, BUT ALSO REOPENED SOME FUNDAMENTAL
 POLITICAL ISSUES, WHICH THE U.S. THOUGHT HAD BEEN RESOLVED IN
 MARIANAS II AND III.

17. (C) DRAFT AND LEGAL COMMENTARIES PRESENTED BY MPSC RAISED
 QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND WAS REplete WITH LANGUAGE CALLING FOR

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EXCEPTIONS, EXEMPTIONS AND SPECIAL TREATMENT WHICH, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD GIVE MARIANAS PRIVILEGED POSITION IN COMPARISON WITH ALL U.S. TERRITORIES, INCLUDING PUERTO RICO. INITIALLY MPSC POSITION SEEMED INFLEXIBLE IN SUPPORT OF THEIR COUNSEL'S DRAFT, BUT TIME, SOME PERSONAL DIPLOMACY AND OPEN CHALLENGES IN OPEN SESSIONS RESULTED IN A RETREAT AND INSTRUCTION FROM MPSC TO ITS COUNSEL TO SEEK COMPROMISE AND ACCOMMODATION.

18. (C) IN RETROSPECT ISSUE MAY HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL IN SENSE THAT IT SURFACED VITAL SOVEREIGNTY QUESTION. FACED WITH IMMOVABLE U.S. POSITION ON THIS MATTER, COUNSEL SPEAKING FOR MPSC CAME BACK IN CONCILIATORY FASHION WITH STRONG INEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT THAT MPSC NOT QUESTIONING U.S. SOVEREIGNTY. EPISODE ALSO GAVE U.S. OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM BASIC PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONSHIP, INCLUDING REQUIREMENT THAT PLENARY POWERS OF U.S. CONGRESS TO LEGISLATE WITH RESPECT TO NORTHERN MARIANAS MUST BE ABSOLUTE EXCEPT IN CASE WHERE CONGRESS ITSELF PROVIDES EXEMPTION.

19. (C) THIS SERIOUS PROBLEM WHICH HAD THREATENED EARLY ABORTING OF SESSION, DUE TO FUNDAMENTAL PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE VARIANCE,

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RESOLVED INTO AGREEMENT TO SET UP JOINT DRAFTING COMMITTEE TO
 FROM: PREPARE DRAFT STATUS AGREEMENT IN INTERIM BEFORE NEXT ROUND.
 TO: AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS NAMED JAMES WILSON SENIOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
 ON THIS COMMITTEE AND MPSC NAMED ITS SENIOR COUNSEL, MR. WILLENS
 AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE.

20. (C) SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION: THIS SUBJECT CAME UP FOR FIRST
 TIME IN FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS ALTHOUGH MPSC CHAIRMAN AND VICE-
 CHAIRMAN HAVE DISCUSSED IN INFORMALLY WITH AMBASSADOR OVER PAST
 6 MONTHS. MPSC PAPER SAID COMMISSION AND PEOPLE SUPPORT IDEA OF
 COMPLETE SEPARATION OF MARIANAS FROM TTPI GOVERNMENT PRIOR
 TERMINATION TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT. IN SUPPORT OF ITS POSITION
 AND IN REPLY TO SOME PROBING QUESTIONS FROM THE AMBASSDOR, MPSC
 MEMBERS IN SOME OF STROUNGEST AND MOST MOVING STATEMENTS OF THE
 ENTIRE COURSE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS URGED THE U.S. TO ACCEDE TO
 THEIR DESIRE FOR SEPARATION. PARTIAL EXCEPTION TO UNANIMITY
 OF VIEWS WAS CAROLINIAN REPRESENTATIVE RABAUIMAN WHO STRESSED
 CONTINUING NEED TO PROVIDE FOR RIGHTS OF MINORITY. AMBASSADOR
 POSED QUESTION AS TO BEST CHANNEL FOR MAKING CLEAR THE MARIANAS

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REQUEST FOR SEPARATION. ON BALANCE, ANSWERS TENDED SHOW FEELING THAT RESOLUTION OF MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AT FORTHCOMING AUGUST SESSION, SUPPORTED BY SIMILAR ACTION FROM MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, WOULD BE MOST PRACTICAL ROUTE. THEY FELT REFERENDUM ON SUBJECT WOULD BE CONFUSING AND UNNECESSARY, AND APPEARED SOMEWHAT ALARMED AT PURPOSELY PROVOCATIVE QUESTION BY AMBASSADOR AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD FEEL THAT SUCH REFERENDUM ASSUMING AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE WOULD IN EFFECT LOCK THEM INTO SEPARATE STATUS EVEN BEFORE THAT QUESTION ITSELF HAD BEEN POSED TO THEM. MEMBERS ASSERTED PEOPLE HAD ALREADY MADE UP THEIR MINDS THAT THEY HAD MADE THEIR WISHES KNOWN TIME AND TIME AGAIN, THAT THEY WANTED SEPARATE STATUS AND, AS ONE PUT IT, "HAVE INSTRUCTED US TO EXPIDITE THE ARRANGEMENT," SO WHAT MORE DOES THE U.S. WANT. SURPRISINGLY ONE OF THE STRONGEST AND MOST EMOTIONAL STATEMENTS FOR EARLY SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION WITHOUT A REFERENDUM CAME FROM DR. PLACIOS. HE SHOWED IMPATIENCE WITH NOTION THAT PEOPLE SHOULD AGAIN BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE THEIR OPINIOR OF THIS SUBJECT.

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HE SAID WE ARE ^{FROM:} IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH OUR PEOPLE AND THEY ^{TO:} HAVE MADE UP THEIR MINDS FOR UNION WITH THE U.S. SO WHY DOES THE U.S. HESITATE TO GIVE US SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION.

21. {C} QUESTION WAS LEFT FOR FURTHER ACTION AT MPSC INITIATIVE. SEEMS LIKELY THAT, AS MDL PRESIDENT SANTOS SUGGESTED IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR LAST JANUARY, AUGUST SESSION OF LEGISLATURE WILL SEE PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION FORMALLY REQUESTING SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION THUS, AS MPSC PAPER PUT IT, CONFUSION WOULD BE LESSEned AND MARIANAS WOULD HAVE EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE ITS EXPERIENCE IN SELF-GOVERNMENT. SOME MEMBERS OF MPSC SPOKE OF NEED TO TAKE ACTION THIS MATTER BEFORE COM ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER. CLEAR THAT MAJORITY MPSC HOPING FOR EARLY FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM U.S. ON THIS QUESTION.

22. {C} ROUND IV ADJOURNED ON NOTE OF CONSIDERABLE MUTUAL SATISFACTION AT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE OVER PAST TWO WEEKS. MANY MEMBERS MPSC INDICATED LIKELY THAT NEXT ROUND, PROBABLE IN EARLY FALL, SHOULD RESULT IN SIGNED AGREEMENT. IN MOOD OF FRIENDLY RAPPORT AND GOOD WISHES, FINAL SESSION CLOSED, AFTER AMBASSADOR'S FAREWELL STATEMENT, WITH IMPROMPTU SINGING OF

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DRAFTER TYPED NAME, TITLE, OFFICE SYMBOL, PHONE & DATE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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MESSAGE (DUPLICATOR PAPER)

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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"GOD BLESS AMERICA!" AT SPONTANEOUS INITIATIVE OF TINIAN REPRESENTATIVE JOE CRUZ. THIS SUPRISE ENDING REFLECTED WARMTH OF PERSONAL FEELINGS BETWEEN DELEGATIONS WHICH HAVE GROWN DURING COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS DESPITE TOUGH BARGAINING AT THE TABLE, AND GIVES REASON TO LOOK FORWARD WITH SATISFACTION AND HOPE TO COMING INTO BEING OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS. TRENT.

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