

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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MPSC 543
Jan 23 1974

FROM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN	IN COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC JCS WASHINGTON DC SECDEF WASHINGTON DC CINCPAC HONOLULU HI CINCPACREP GUAM/TIPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY	CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED	ORIGINATOR STATUS LNO TRENT																																																																														
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FROM STATUS LNO NO. 12

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: PANGELINAN COMMENTS TO PRESS ON ROTA ATTITUDES
REF: STATUS LNO 9 C

IN INTERVIEW WITH PACIFIC DAILY NEWS SAIPAN STAFFER MADDEX,
MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN PANGELINAN IS QUOTED
AS SAYING (PDN JAN 23), FOLLOWING RETURN OF MPS C FROM ROTA VISIT

THAT HE FEELS "EVEN MORE SURE" THAT PEOPLE OF ROTA ARE BEHIND SEPAR-
ATE MARIANAS STATUS TALKS.

REFERRING TO ~~THE~~ JOINT COMMITTEE'S REPORT REACHING DIFFERENT
CONCLUSION (STATUS LNO 6 C) PANGELINAN SAID: "WE CAME AWAY FROM ROTA
WITH THE FEELING THAT THE PEOPLE SUPPORT THE DESIRE TO BECOME PART OF

THE UNITED STATES AND ALSO APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. CITI-
ZENSHIP. WE ALSO CAME BACK WITH THE SENTIMENT THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE
OUR NEGOTIATIONS BECUASE THE PEOPLE KNOW THAT IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS

THEY ARE THE ONES WHO WILL DECIDE, WHO WILL REJECT A STATUS AGREEMENT
OR NOT."

PANGELINAN CONTINUED: "THE PEOPLE ASKED SOME VERY GOOD QUESTIONS
ABOUT OUR DISUCSSIONS - ABOUT FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE
MARIANAS AND THE U.S., LAND, MILITARY, COMPONENTS OF A COMMONWEALTH.

THEY WERE ~~EXXEXEXEX~~ PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE U.S.'S PROPOSED
\$14.5 MILLION ANNUAL BASE, THE TAX REBATES, AND OTHER FINANCIAL
ASPECTS. THEY'VE BEEN CONCERNED IN THE PAST THAT THEY MAY BE SHORT-

CHANGED IN THEIR REQUESTS TO RECEIVE AN EQUAL SHARE OF DISTRICT FUNDS.
BUT IF MONEY IS THE PROBLEM, THE NEW MARIANAS GOVERNMENT SHOULD OFFER

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A NEW OPPORTUNITY. WE CAN BUILD IN SAFEGUARDS TO ASSURE EQUAL REPRESENTATION FOR ROTA IN THE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ LEGISLATURE FOR EXAMPLE, BECAUSE IT'S THERE WHERE THE APPROPRIATION OF MONEY FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES IS DECIDED ON."

"THEY'RE NOW ASKING, DO WE REALLY WANT TO SEPARATE FOR THE SAKE OF BEING A SEPARATE DISTRICT, OR JUST TO GET MORE MONEY? SURE, THEY KNOW THEY CAN SEPARATE AND GO BACK TO THE PRE-1962 TIMES WHEN THEY WERE MAKING 13 CENTS

AN HOUR. BUT NOW THEY'RE SAYING, IF MONEY IS OUR PROBLEM WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN GET UNDER THE NEW GOVERNMENT. THEY KNOW THAT IF U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS WHAT THEY WANT, YOU DON'T BECOME PART OF MICRONESIA, WHICH DOESN'T WANT TO BE

PART OF THE U.S."

COMMENTING ON THE JOINT COMMITTEE REPORTS (WHICH PANGLINAN THOUGH A MEMBER DID NOT SIGN) THE SENATOR SAID: "THE JOINT COMMITTEE WENT TO THE PEOPLE WITH NOTHING TO OFFER. THEY SHOULD HAVE REPORTED ONLY THE TRANSCRIPT

~~XXXX~~ OF THE HEARINGS AND ASKED THE CONGRESS AS A WHOLE TO ANALYZE THE PRESENT STATE OF CONFUSION IN MICRONESIA."

MPSC SERIES OF INFORMATIVE MEETINGS IN SAIPAN COMMUNITIES BEGAN ~~XX~~ LAST NIGHT JAN 22 WITH SESSION AT SAN ANTONIO.

TRENT