

Hudson
03

JMWilson:10-9-74:kkc

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Chairman, Marianas Political Status Commission
The President's Personal Representative for Micronesian
Status Negotiations

Subject: Report of the Joint Drafting Committee

Pursuant to decisions taken in May during the fourth series of negotiations in Saipan on the future political status of the Marianas, the joint Marianas-U.S. Drafting Committee has met in Washington, D.C. and considered various matters referred to it in the Joint Communique of May 31, 1974. We submit herewith our report ~~to the full delegations.~~

The results of our discussions are reflected in the attached draft agreement which is recommended by the committee for ^{your} consideration of ~~both delegations~~. The draft serves to record our tentative agreement on a number of substantive issues in addition to representing a recommended format.

Several substantive issues remain for resolution as reflected in the sections of the draft appearing in square brackets. These will require further examination and discussion by principals before the drafting process can continue.

Also left unresolved are two issues of form which will require further resolution. The first is the name to be attached to the agreement. The United States has suggested it be referred to as a "Covenant". The MPSC has suggested "Commonwealth Agreement". The second issue is the desirability of including a list of "general principles" between the preamble

11344

and the articles which would set out in broad terms the major points of agreement between the United States and the Marianas, details of which would appear in the articles. The United States favors such inclusion; the MPSC Counsel does not.

The joint committee is prepared to continue its deliberations as necessary to refine the text of the agreement further prior to the next formal negotiating session of the two delegations if that is the wish of the principals.

Howard P. Willens
Senior Representative
MPSC Drafting Committee

~~James M. Wilson, Jr.~~
~~Senior Representative~~
U.S. Drafting Committee