

Tinian, Mariana Island

November 13, 1974

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U. S. Ambassador Franklin H. Williams  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Recent election results in the Mariana Islands District, while still unofficial, have caused a great deal of confusion and apprehension concerning future Marianas Political Status Commission negotiations with the United States Government. As we are elected representatives of the people of Tinian, we wish to go on record that we strongly support the work of the Marianas Political Status Commission and the positions it had taking from its inception of status talks to the present.

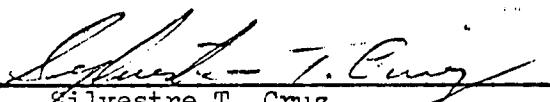
We are very pleased with the progress made by the Marianas Political Status Commission since its creation in 1971 by our District Legislature. It has done an excellent job in ensuring that our future relationship with the United States will be a fair and honorable arrangement for both sides. But we are afraid that misinterpretations of recent election results will serve to jeopardize the interests of our people. For that reason we wish to advise you of our continued support of the positions adopted by the Marianas Political Status Commission and our edorsement of its position as the true representative of the Marianas people in their negotiations with the United States Government.

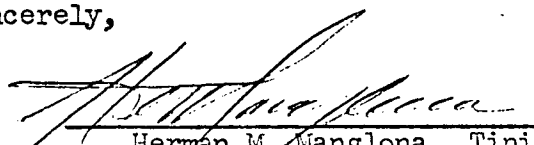
We believe that the United States' requests for land on Tinian and Saipan are reasonable and should be honored. After all, negotiations are not one sided declarations of a single party or interest group. Negotiations are the compromised and considered judgements of several competing interest groups. We feel that the United States Delegation and the Marianas Political Status Commission have shared this basic principle of a negotiated understanding. Let us not now in any way repudiate the results of these forthright negotiations and slow the progress toward a popularly supported Commonwealth Status for the Mariana Islands.

We sincerely hope that during your December 1974 talks with the Marianas Political Status Commission, both sides will be able to sign the Status Agreement.

God bless America and the future new Government of the Marianas. Thank you and Hafa Dai.

Sincerely,

  
Silvestre T. Cruz  
Speaker, Tinian Municipal Council

  
Herman M. Manglona, Tinian Rep.  
District Legislature

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