



Department of State

10/215

CAISA
2/15/11
6/11/11

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 150539Z

ACTION COPY

11
ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-11 EA-11 IO-14 JUSE-00 SPC-03 PRS-01 L-03 SS-20

PH-07 7068 W

104293

P 142315Z MAR 74
FM DISTAD PONAPE CAROLINE ISLANDS
TO RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
INFO WHITE HOUSE COMM AGENCY WASHINGTON DC
JCS WASHINGTON DC
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACREP GUAM/TIPI MARIANAS ISLANDS
IS MISSION USUN NEW YORK NY
HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS

UNCLAS
FROM STATUS LNO NO. 100
PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN (ACTION) AND DOTA (INFO)
COMTWELVE FOR AMB WILLIAMS
WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC
STATE FOR EA/ANP AND IO/UNP
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA, CSAF
PASS JUSTICE FOR MARCUSE (OLC)
USUN FOR AMB WHITE

PAGE 02 RUCSAA6822 UNCLAS
HICOMTERPACIS FOR STATUS LNO
SUBJ: TINIAN REFERENDUM

REF: STATUS LNO NO. 98
ACCORDING SAIPAN DATELINE STORY CARRIED PACIFIC DAILY NEWS MARCH 13,
MARIANAS DISTAD ADA HAS STATED IN SUPPORT OF HIS DECISION TO VETO
SUBJECT REFERENDUM (REFTEL) THAT REFERENDUM WOULD BE AN "ATTEMPT TO
UNDERMINE" U.S. -MARIANAS STATUS NEGOTIATIONS STORY REPORTS ADA AS
SAYING THAT WHILE HE APPRECIATES THE PEOPLE'S DESIRE TO BE HEARD
ON "SUCH AN IMPORTANT BUT YET HIGHLY SENSITIVE AND EMOTIONAL

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REF ID: A66822

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PAGE 02 150530Z

ISSUE, THE TIMING IS INAPPROPRIATE.

STORY QUOTES ADA FURTHER: "WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SOME EXPRESSIONS OF SOME KIND OF MILITARY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY ON TINIAN, SUCH REQUIREMENTS ARE EXTREMELY GENERAL IN NATURE SERVING AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR PURPOSES OF NEGOTIATION." ADA ALSO POINTED OUT, ACCORDING TO PDN THAT THE MARIANAS SO FAR HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING "AS A WHOLE". "AS SUCH THE BENEFITS OF THE ENTIRE RESIDENTS OF THE MARIANAS MUST BE UPHOLD AT ALL TIMES. TO PERMIT ONE MUNICIPALITY TO EVEN ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL, IN MY OPINION, BE THE BEGINNING OF FRAGMENTATION THAT WILL LEAD TO NO APPRECIABLE CONCLUSION IN OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE

PAGE 03 RUHGAA6822 UNCLAS

A POLITICAL STATUS. I DO NOT MEAN THAT THE INTEREST OF TINIAN BE NOT PROTECTED. TO THE CONTRARY, I FEEL THAT BY MARIANAS UNITING TOGETHER THE INTEREST OF THE TINIAN PEOPLE MAY BE BEST PROTECTED RATHER THAN THE PEOPLE OF X TINIAN X TAKING IT UPON THEMSELVES TO DECIDE OTHERWISE."

DISTAD ADDED THOUGHT THAT REFERENDUM MIGHT PROVIDE FORUM WHERE SYMPATHY AND EMOTION WILL REIGN AND THE OBJECTIVE WILL BE LOST DURING THE BARRAGE OF EMOTIONS." HE NOTED HE HOPES HIS DISAPPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE "WILL NOT DISCOURAGE THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN FROM FORMING THEIR OWN OPINIONS OF LAND REQUIREMENTS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES."

TINIAN'S REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, FELIPE ATALIG, TOLD PDN HE THINKS CONGRESS SHOULD NOT GIVE REFERENDUM PRIORITY IF A SPECIAL SESSION IS CALLED THIS SUMMER. ATALIG IS QUOTED AS SAYING: "I'M JUST VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT THE OPINION OF OUR LOCAL LEADERS ON TINIAN WAS NOT RESPECTED. IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE A CORRECT ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT." TIGHT SENDS

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