

Covered Cong - 12/8  
Senate  
March 1975

SENATOR HART'S CHALLENGES

1. The Administration has been trying for years to make the Marianas part of the United States.
2. The Covenant binds American taxpayers to support the Marianas economy "on a grand scale".
3. The U.S. Congress has been kept out in the cold in negotiations with the Marianas.
4. Acquisition of the Marianas represents a change in U.S. foreign and military policy and in relations with the United Nations.
5. Under the Trusteeship Agreement, Micronesia is an indivisible unit.
6. Action taken (i.e., separate administration) before Congress has a chance to consider or understand, may be irreversible.
7. U.S. promise of extraordinary financial support (\$10,000 per capita) has naturally lured islanders into deciding to become U.S. colony.
8. Plebiscite education campaign was dishonest and one-sided.
9. The Administration plans to complete separate administration before Congress acts, presenting the Covenant as a commitment which can't be disavowed. Congress will be asked to ratify a fait accompli.
10. Colonial acquisition of the Marianas flies in the face of U.S. support for independence for colonial areas.

11. Congress must draw the line against attrition of its powers.
12. Marianas people should be informed that the U.S. Congress might not approve every detail of the Covenant and that separate administration cannot occur "until Congress specifically approves of it".
13. U.S. has formulated its "colonization plan" without Congressional participation.
14. Congress is being asked to approve without alteration a "sacred commitment".