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April 15, 1975

NRD/Cardwell

Briefing re the Marianas

See below

FYI - Congressional briefing on Mariana Islands Commonwealth Covenant (copy attached for your file).

- Ambassador Williams briefed the House Interior Subcommittee on Territorial Affairs on April 14, 1975. The briefing was at the request of Subcommittee Chairman Phillip Burton.
- The briefing provides a good overview of the negotiations, the covenant provisions, and the steps ahead which may lead to final approval for the covenant. (See pages 11-13 re appointment of Plebescite Commissioner and Secretarial Proclamations issued April 11, 1975.)
- The Ambassador made unequivocal statements about the absence of any current plans to station U.S. forces or build any base in the Northern Marianas (see page 8, last two full sentences).

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Attachment

cc:  
Mr. Crabill  
Mr. Strait  
Mr. Sitrin

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