



MAY 27 1975

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/006/052

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REVIEWED by *BHB*

DATE *4/25/88*

PRIORITY RELEASE

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SUBJECT: TRUSTESHIP COUNCIL: TIPI-LEGAL ASPECTS

REF: USUN 1691

1. CHAIRMAN OF MARIANAS CONCON DELEGATION HAS STATED PUBLICLY THAT DELEGATION WOULD REFRAIN FROM PARTICIPATING IN CONCON IF VOTE IN JUNE 17 PLEBISCITE ACCEPTS COMMONWEALTH COVENANT.

2. RE PARTICIPATION IN JULY 8 REFERENDUM. IF THE PLEBISCITE RESULTS IN AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON THE COVENANT, THE MARIANAS MAY DECIDE THAT THERE IS NO NEED OR REASON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REFERENDUM SINCE THEY WILL ALREADY HAVE MADE THEIR DECISION AS TO THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS. IF THE PLEBISCITE VOTE REJECTS THE COVENANT THE STATUS OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT REMAINS UNCHANGED AND THE DISTRICT PRESUMABLY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE TT-WIDE REFERENDUM.

3. WITH RESPECT TO TIMING OF SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION, USG HAS STATED (SEP 1961 OF NEGOTIATING HISTORY) THAT IT

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INTENDS TO INSTITUTE SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION FOLLOWING PLEBISCITE APPROVAL. IN FACT, THIS REMAINS AN UNRESOLVED ISSUE REQUIRING FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH MPSC AND U.S. CONGRESS.

4. SUGGEST SUBJECT OF SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION BE ADDED TO YOUR AGENDA FOR MONDAY AFTERNOON STAFF MEETING.

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