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TELEGRAM

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F.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, UN, TO  
SUBJ: TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL SESSION

FOLLOWING STATEMENT MADE BY AMB WHITE IN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL, MAY 29:

"I WAS SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED TO HEAR SENATOR KENDALL'S CHARGE IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT OF BAD FAITH BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS. THE RECORD IS CLEAR THAT FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS THE MARIANAS HAVE, THROUGH PETITIONS AND THROUGH THE WORDS OF THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES, EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO BE A PART OF THE UNITED STATES. THIS WAS A LONG PROCESS AND THERE WERE NO SURPRISES.

"INDEED, IN 1969 THE REPORT OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS NOTED THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS AND INDICATED THAT IT WOULD NOT OPPOSE A POLITICAL UNION WHICH REFLECTED THE FREELY EXPRESSED DESIRE OF THE MAJORITY OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

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"AS THE COUNCIL WILL RECALL, IT WAS IN 1971 -- WHEN THE NEGOTIATORS FOR THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DECIDED NO LONGER TO NEGOTIATE ON THE OPTION OF COMMONWEALTH, WHICH HAD BEEN AGREEABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS, BUT RATHER TO DISCARD COMMONWEALTH AND MOVE TO NEGOTIATIONS ON FREE ASSOCIATION -- THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MARIANAS ON THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS REQUESTED SEPARATE TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES, AND SO INFORMED THE JOINT UNITED STATES ACCEDED TO THAT REQUEST.

"I REITERATE THIS HISTORY ONLY TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT CAN IN NO SENSE BE SAID THAT THERE WAS BAD FAITH ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES."  
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