

SEEN AS DECISIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO FEEL THEY HAVE
ALREADY MADE THEIR CHOICE. IF THE US PREVENTS THEIR
VOTING, HOWEVER, (BY EXCEEDING TO REQUEST OF MARIANAS
AUTHORITIES THAT REFERENDUM NOT BE HELD IN THE DISTRICT
OR BY FAILING TO PROVIDE POLLING AREAS) THIS MIGHT
JEOPARDIZE AN ENDORSEMENT OF LEGITIMACY OF ENTIRE
MARIANAS PROCESS OF SELF-DETERMINATION.
5. FURTHERMORE IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION OF
UNDUE HASTE, OR OF "RAILROADING" ACTIONS THROUGH IN
ORDER TO PRESENT "FAITS ACCOMPLIS", WE RECOMMEND THAT
NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN (1) TOWARD SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE MARIANAS, OR (2) TO RULE OUT MARIANAS PARTICIPATION
IN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, UNTIL US CONGRESS HAS ACTED
AND COVENANT CAN LEGALLY GO INTO EFFECT, REGARDING (2),
IF MARIANAS DELEGATES REFUSE TO ATTEND, THAT IS THEIR
PREROGATIVE, BUT THE US SHOULD TAKE NO STEP TO RULE OUT
THEIR PARTICIPATION.
6. THESE QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE VISITING
MISSION DURING THEIR WASHINGTON BRIEFINGS MONDAY, JUNE 9.
WE STRONGLY URGE FOLLOWING THE LINES RECOMMENDED HERE AND
WE CAUTION THAT A DIFFERENT COURSE COULD WELL MAKE
NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MISSION ON EVE OF ITS DEPARTURE.

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7. AS LONG AS VISITING MISSION SEES THAT PLEBISCITE IS
FREE AND FAIR EXPRESSION OF WILL OF MARIANAS PEOPLES,
AND THAT US IS NOT USING ITS POWER AS ADMINISTERING
AUTHORITY TO RUSH PREMATURELY INTO SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION,
TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL WILL ACCEPT THE OUTCOME, WE SHOULD
REMEMBER, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN OUR FRIENDS HAVE QUESTIONS
AND WANT TO BE SURE THAT BOTH OF THE ABOVE CONDITIONS ARE
MET. BENNETT

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#1917

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