

C-11/SA
10
5

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 120355Z

Amb
Schmitz

MVTrent

de Graffenried

11
ACTION INT-05

Schiele

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-10 H-02 L-03 PM-03 PA-02 /036 W
030079

P 120355Z JUL 75
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS
SECTION 01 OF 02
FROM STATUS LNO 194
PASS INTERIOR FOR DOTA AND OMSN FOR ACTION
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV TO

*Copies given
to Burton +
MPSC
7/14*

SUBJECT: STATEMENT FOR MARIANAS COVENANT HEARING
1. SEN. BORJA HAS ASKED THAT FOLLOWING LETTER AND STATEMENT

BE PASSED ASAP TO CHAIRMAN PHILLIP BURTON AND TO MPSC DELEGATION.
2. LETTER, BEGIN TEXT
DEAR CONGRESSMAN BURTON:

I WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH APPRECIATION YOUR KIND AND THOUGHTFUL
INVITATION TO ATTEND THE JULY 14, 1975 HEARINGS OF YOUR SUBCOMMI-
TTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED
COVENANT FOR THE NOTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS.
IT IS THEREFORE WITH REGRET THAT I MUST INFORM YOU THAT CIRCUM-

PAGE 02 RUHGSAA4057 UNCLAS
STANCES WILL NOT PERMIT MY APPEARANCE ON THIS HISTORIC OCCASION.
HOWEVER, I AM TAKING THE LIBERTY OF TRANSMITING A COPY OF MY
PREPARED REMARKS, WHICH I REQUEST THAT MR. JOSE R. CRUZ READ, OR
IF NOT POSSIBLE, INSERT INTO THE RECORD ON MY BEHALF.
I DO, HOWEVER, PLAN TO VISIT WASHINGTON D.C. NEAR THE END OF
JULY ON OTHER CONGRESSIONAL MATTERS, AND HOPE THAT TIME WILL
PERMIT ME TO PAY A COURTESY CALL TO YOUR OFFICE AND TO TESTIFY
IN THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS.
WARMEST HABA ADAI.
(SIGNED) SENATOR T. BORJA END TEXT
STATEMENT, BEGIN TEXT

UNCLASSIFIED

03



UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 1266547

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THIS DISTINGUISHED SUBCOMMITTEE:
MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN MY COLLEAGUES FROM THE
MARIANAS LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING YOU THE BEST WISHES AND GREETINGS
OF THE PEOPLE OF OUR DISTRICT, AND MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR
HAVING BEEN INVITED TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF THE PROPOSED COVENANT
TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

AS THE SENIOR SENATOR OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT, A MEMBER
OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SINCE ITS CREATION OVER TEN YEARS
AGO, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THIS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT OUT

PAGE 03 RUHGSAA4057 UNCLAS

FAVORABLY THE COVENANT AS RATIFIED BY MY PEOPLE ON JUNE 17, 1975
DURING AN OFFICIAL PLEBISCITE SUPERVISED BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTA-
TIVE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND WITNESSED BY
OFFICIAL OBSERVERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL.

IN CONVEYING THE STONG DLWAUFNBMF THE COVENANT BY MY
CONSTITUENTS IT IS PERHAPS APPROPRIATE TO BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE THE
BACKGROUND OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS WHICH
CULMINATED IN THE JUNE PLEBISCITE, AND WHICH NOW AWAIT, LIKE OUR
CITIZENS, YOUR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION.

AS HAS BEEN INDICATED BEFORE AT OTHER FORUMS, THE PEOPLE OF THE
MARIANAS HAVE DESIRED TO BECOME A PART OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL
FAMILY FOR OVER TWO DECADES. THE REASON FOR THIS DESIRE IS A
SIMPLE ONE. IT RESULTS FROM THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE WITNESSED
AND PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED ADMINISTRATION AND CONTROL BY FOUR
DIFFERENT WORLD POWERS OVER THE PAST FOUR CENTURIES, IT IS THEIR
FERVENT AND DEEPLY HELD BELIEF THAT OF THE FOUR DIFFERENT NATIONS
WHICH HAVE RULED THE MARIANAS, THAT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA HAS WON THEIR HEARTS AND MINDS, BECAUSE OF THE DEMOCRA-
TIC IDEALS AND FREEDOM WHICH IT REPRESENTS AND STANDS FOR IN PRINCI-
PLE AND PRACTICES IN FACT.

PAGE 04 RUHGSAA4057 UNCLAS

THEREFORE, NOT ONLY MUST WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE
MARIANAS HAVE REPEATEDLY REQUESTED THIS FORM OF STATUS AS EVIDENCED
BY NUMEROUS DOCUMENTS, SUBPETITIONS, MEMORIALS, LETTERS, AND REFERENDUMS,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 1200017

AND AS FURTHER SHOWN BY THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES, BUT WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT MY PEOPLE VIEW A PERMANENT ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES WITH RESPECT, WITH AFFECTION, AND WITH ADMIRATION.

THESE FEELINGS HAVE BEEN MANIFESTED IN MANY WAYS. FOR ONE, BECAUSE OF OUR STRONG DESIRE TO BECOME ATTACHED TO THE UNITED STATES, IN THE 1960'S A POLITICAL PARTY WAS BORN IN THE MARIANAS. A MAJOR PLANK AND PHILOSOPHY OF THIS PARTY WAS THAT THE MARIANAS SHOULD BECOME A PART OF THE UNITED STATES.

LATER, IN 1970, WHEN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAD REJECTED THE OFFER OF A COMMONWEALTH STATUS FOR ALL OF MICRONESIA, I MADE A SPEECH IN THE SENATE OF THE CONGRESS WHICH SPOKE FOR OUR FEELINGS AT THAT TIME.

"I FEAR THAT FOR THIS CONGRESS TO REJECT THE UNITED STATES' PROPOSAL FOR A COMMONWEALTH STATUS AS UNACCEPTABLE WILL FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR SCRUTINIZING THE MERITS OF SUCH A PROPOSAL. WE IN THE MARIANAS COMMUNITY DO NOT FIND THE COMMONWEALTH PROPOSAL

PAGE 05 RUHGSAA4057 UNCLAS

ALTOGETHER UNACCEPTABLE. WE ARE SOMEWHAT FLATTERED BY THIS INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES IN MICRONESIA, AND PERHAPS A LITTLE EMBARRASSED. WE ARE NOT QUITE SURE MICRONESIA ENTIRELY DESERVES IT."

SINCE THAT TIME, THE BASIC GOALS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS HAVE NOT CHANGED, AND NEITHER HAS THE SENTIMENT THAT WE ARE SOMEWHAT FLATTERED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS CONVINCED ENOUGH OF OUR SINCERITY TO AGREE TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND IN THIS HEARING TODAY.

IN SIMILAR FASHION, WE FIND THE COVENANT BEFORE YOU NOT "ALTOGETHER UNACCEPTABLE," AND IN FACT, WE FIND IT FOR THE MOST PART QUITE ACCEPTABLE REPRESENTING NOT ONLY THE CULMINATION OF TWO DECADES OF EFFORTS BUT ALSO TWO YEARS OF CONCENTRATED NEGOTIATIONS.

WE ARE, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT NO INSTRUMENT OR DOCUMENT IS EITHER PERFECT, OR ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES, SINCE THE VERY PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION INVOLVES COMPROMISE, AND COMPROMISE INEVITABLY MEANS THAT BOTH SIDES GET MOST, BUT NOT ALL, THEY WANT.

IN THIS CONNECTION THEREFORE, IT IS MY HOPE THAT THIS SUBCOMMITTEE AND BOTH HOUSES OF THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL CONSIDER APPROVING THIS AS A BASIC AGREEMENT, WHICH PROVIDES THE MECHANICS OF LATER

UNCLASSIFIED

