

FOLLOWING AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS AND FORMER COMMISSIONER
CASHAM SPEAKING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE 10 MEMBERS OF THE
MARIANA ISLANDS DELEGATION, INCLUDING DEPUTY CHAIRMAN EDWARD
DLG. PANGELIHAN.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR PREPARED STATEMENTS, THE
MARIANAS DELEGATION WERE THE RECIPIENT OF CONSIDERABLE

PRaises FROM THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

REPRESENTATIVE LAGO GARCINO OF CALIFORNIA, TOLD THE
GROUP THAT BY ASKING THE CONGRESS FOR "POLITICAL UNION WITH
THE UNITED STATES" YOU HAVE KINDLED A SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM"
IN A TIME WHEN MOST PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD ARE CRITICIZING
AMERICA.

REP. JERRY L. PETTIS ALSO OF CALIFORNIA SAID "I, TOO,
"I'M IMPRESSED. IT IS VERY SIGNIFICANT AND HEART WARMING
THAT 13,000 PEOPLE WAY OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC
WANT TO JOIN US."

DELEGATE ANTONIO WONG PAT OF GUAM, SAID HE "PERSONALLY
AND PUBLICLY CONDEMN ALL THOSE HERE FROM THE MARIANAS FOR
THEIR FINE STATEMENTS." HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT TOOK GUAM
HALF A CENTURY TO GAIN U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND SAID TO THE
MARIANAS DELEGATION "YOU ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED."

THE FOUR HOUR MEETING CONCLUDED WITH A MOTION TO SEND
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 549 CONCERNING THE COVENANT TO THE
FULL INTERIOR COMMITTEE WITH A FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.

THE MOTION WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL THOSE PRESENT.

IT WAS ANTICIPATED BY MOST OBSERVERS THAT THE HOUSE
INTERIOR COMMITTEE WOULD RULE ON THE MEASURE QUICKLY SO THAT
IT COULD BE SENT TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EARLY NEXT WEEK.

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