

## Department of State

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SUBJECT: MARIANAS DELEGATION PRESS RELEASE MARIANAS DELEGATION REQUESTS FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE BE PASSED MNS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

THE MARIANAS DELEGATION, CONSISTING OF CHAIRMAN EDWARD DLG. PANGELINAN OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, SENATOR PEDRO A. TENORIO OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, CONGRESSMAN DANIEL T. MUNA OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, MANUEL A. SABLAN AND JOSE R. CRUZ OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION HAVE SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO REVIEW WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA REGARDING THE REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR THE MARIANAS SEPARATION, AND ALSO MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE REGARDING THE COVENANT TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES. PAGE 02 STATE 234164

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THE MARIANAS DELEGATION MET ON THREE OCCASIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CONSISTING OF CONGRESSMAN RAYMOND SETIK, SENATOR JOHN MANGEFEL, CONGRESS-WOMAN CARMEN BIGLEP AND LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL KALEB UDUII. THE MEETINGS WERE HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEEKING SOLUTIONS

TO PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST REGARDING THE MARIANAS SEPARATION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS TO THE REST OF MICRONESIA. IN THE SPIRITS OF COOPERATION, RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING THE TWO DELEGATIONS ENTERED INTO AN AMICABLE AND PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE AND HAVE REACHED TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF ISSUES ON THE MARIANAS SEPARATION.

THE TWO DELEGATIONS AGREED THAT MOST OF THE ISSUES PRESENTED BY THE MARIANAS SEPARATION ARE INTERNAL MATTERS WHICH COULD BE EASILY RESOLVED BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF THE MARIANAS AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THE DELEGATIONS FURTHER AGREED THAT CONTINUOUS DISCUSSION WILL BE HELD IN SAIPAN UNTIL THESE ISSUES ARE RESOLVED. THE MEMBERS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED THEIR CONFIDENCE FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THESE MUTUAL PROBLEMS.

ASIDE FROM THE MEETING WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THE MEMBERS OF THE MARIANAS DELE-GATION HAVE SPENT MUCH OF THEIR TIME IN THEIR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO MEET WITH AS MANY MEMBERS OF THE SENATE REGAR-DING THE COVENANT. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THEY HAVE MET PERSONALLY WITH ALMOST ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND HAVE ALSO CON-TACTED CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS AND ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEES. THE MARIANAS DELEGATION ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE WARM RECEPTION AND FAVORABLE MEETING WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE. DURING THE LAST WEEKEND THE DELEGATION MADE A SPECIAL TRIP TO HYANNIS PORT IN CAPE COD. MASSACHUSETTS TO DELIVER PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LATE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY. THEY WERE HONORED BY A RARE VISIT TO THE RESIDENCE OF MRS. ROSE KENNEDY AND SENATOR TED KENNEDY. THE DELEGATION ARE CURRENTLY AWAITING THE MARK-UP SESSION FOR THE COVENANT WHICH WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 3RD BEFORE THE SENATE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

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