

File: COVENANT
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VZCZC6SA011
PTIUZFDY RUEHCAA6626 35 10120-UUUU--R UHGSAA.
ZNR UUUUU
ZZH

ACTION.....STATUS LNO
INFO.....SA/LA

P 170000Z DEC 75 ZFD
FM SECYSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHGSAA/HICOMTER PACIS PRIORITY
INFO RUMJAJA/COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO PRIORITY
RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY PRIORITY 6503
BT
UNCLAS STATE 296626
E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFCR, TQ

SUBJECT: ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION ON MARIANAS
- COVENANT

FOR STATUS LNO
COMTWELVE PASS TO AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

1. ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL LEGISLATION MET AFTERNOON DECEMBER 16 TO CONSIDER MARIANAS COVENANT BUT DEFERRED VOTE UNTIL JANUARY DUE TO PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS ON SENATE FLOOR. SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON OBJECTIONS TO COVENANT WITH PARTICULAR CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS, FEDERAL PROGRAMS, APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL INCOME TAX, AND MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENTS. QUESTION OF DEFERRING SENATE ACTION UNTIL COMPLETION OF STATUS AGREEMENT FOR ENTIRE TTPI ALSO DISCUSSED. SENATORS PRESENT AGREED THAT ADDITIONAL TIME REQUIRED FOR STUDY AND INSTRUCTED STAFF TO RESCHEDULE SUBCOMMITTEE VOTE IN FIRST COUPLE DAYS AFTER CONGRESS RECONVENES ON JANUARY 19., IN MEANTIME, STAFF INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT, LEAVING BLANK SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION, AND CIRCULATE AMONG MEMBERSHIP IN ORDER TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF ISSUES.

2. FULL COMMITTEE VOTE WILL FOLLOW ACTION BY SUBCOMMITTEE AFTER CONGRESS RECONVENES IN JANUARY. ACTION BY FULL ARMED SERVICES AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY JANUARY 27, AT WHICH TIME COVENANT WILL GO TO FULL SENATE.

3. STATUS LNO MAY WISH TO PASS THIS INFO TO MPSC AND MDL LEADERSHIP AND MNS.

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