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Transition Agreement

TELETYPE

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ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 H-02 PM-04 IG-11 /032 W

R 231730Z JAN 76
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANA ISLANDS
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

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FROM STATUS LNO 20#
PASS INTERIOR FOR OMSN FOR ACTION
R.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV TO

Amb *HLD*

de Graffenried

Trent

Scheile

Loftus

Crump

Wytenbach

SUBJECT: SANTOS LETTER TO SETIK
REQUEST YOU PASS FOLLOWING LETTER DATED JANUARY 23 TO MARIANAS
DELEGATION BEGIN TEXT
DEAR CONGRESSMAN SETIK:

I AM TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM YOU THAT THE MARIANAS
ISLAND DISTRICT LEGISLATURE WAS BRIEFED ON FRIDAY, 16 JANUARY 1976
BY THE MARIANAS MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION
CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR THE MARIANAS SEPARATION CONCERNING
THE RESULTS OF YOUR LAST MEETING WITH RESPECT TO THE MARIANAS
SEPARATION. THE LEGISLATURE HEARD VERBAL ACCOUNTS OF THE POSITIVE
TAKEN JOINTLY BY YOUR COMMITTEE AND OUR MARIANAS REPRESENTATION
SPECIALLY THOSE ISSUES WHICH BOTH PARTIES WERE UNABLE TO

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RESOLVE DURING YOUR MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE LEGISLATURE HAS BEEN KEPT
INFORMED PERIODICALLY OF THE PROGRESS OF YOUR MEETINGS AND THE
MEETING LAST WEEK

WAS JUST ANOTHER EFFORT IN KEEPING THE
LEGISLATURE CURRENT ON THE MATTER. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT MEMBERS
OF THE HOLD-OVER COMMITTEE OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT
LEGISLATURE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING TOOK ACTION TO ENDORSE
IN PRINCIPLE THE POINTS RECOMMENDED BY THE MARIANAS MEMBERS
OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINGENCY

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PLANNING FOR THE MARIANAS SEPARATION AS ELUCIDATED IN A DOCUMENT ENTITLED MEMORANDUM OF MEETING DATED DECEMBER 5, 1962 DRAFTED BY THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSIONS LEGAL COUNSEL BASED IN WASHINGTON, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

1. ON THE MATTER OF EDFL AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA-FUNDED LOAN PROGRAMS, THE LEGISLATURE WISHED TO DEFER TAKING ANY POSITION AT THIS TIME PENDING FURTHER EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT EDFL SITUATION IN THE MARIANAS. IT ACKNOWLEDGED HOWEVER THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING THIS ISSUE RESOLVED HOPEFULLY BEFORE THE SEPARATION

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OCURS.

2. CONCERNING YOUR COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION THAT MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA BE ACCORDED IMMUNITY WHILE PRESENT IN THE MARIANAS TO CONDUCT OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE CONGRESS AUTHENTICATED BY AN ISSUANCE OF AN OFFICIAL TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING OFF-REGULAR SESSIONS, THE LEGISLATURE FOUND NO OBJECTION ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS.

3. ON THE MATTER OF IMPORT TAX, THE LEGISLATURE WAS IN AGREE WITH THE POSITION TAKEN BY MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES AND YOUR COMMITTEE BY PRESENTED SEPARATELY IN FINAL JOINT RECOMMENDATION REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

OUR MSPC LEGAL COUNSEL IN WASHINGTON IS PRESENTLY WORKING WITH YOUR ATTORNEY THE FINAL FORMAT OF THE JOINT RECOMMENDATION REPORT AND WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT A FINAL DOCUMENT WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR FURTHER ACTION.

THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXCELLENT SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND GOODWILL THAT PREVAILED THROUGHOUT THE DELIBERATIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT SUCH SPIRIT OF COOPERATION CONTINUE

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IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE THAT WE REPRESENT.

WITH kindest personal regard, I remain sincerely yours,
(SIGNED) VICENTE N. SANTO, PRESIDENT.

END TEXT. MAUGER

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