



Department of State

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ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY NT/DOA/ WYTENBACH/CKR
APPROVED BY INT/DOA/ERICE

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O 02201Z FEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO HICONTERPACIS SAIPAN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, TQ

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE
DOTA NO. 050-TT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>Hee</u>	DATE MAR. '5 1987
RDS <input type="checkbox"/> or XDS <input type="checkbox"/> EXT. DATE _____	TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>	DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

HAVE TRIED TO SEND FOLLOWING DRAFT NEWS RELEASE BY TELEX
BUT CANNOT GET THROUGH TO SAIPAN.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- NEWS RELEASE FOR MNS.

SENATOR STROM THURMOND (R - 'S.C.) EXPRESSING WARM ADMIR-
ATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS, PRESENTED A FORCEFUL
CASE FOR EARLY POSITIVE ACTION BY THE SENATE ON THE
MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH COVENANT DURING THE SENATE ARMED
SERVICES COMMITTEE SESSION, JANUARY 27. THE COMMITTEE
VOTED NINE TO SIX IN FAVOR OF EARLY SENATE APPROVAL OF
THE COVENANT.

SENATOR THURMOND DESCRIBED THE LONG-HELD ASPIRATIONS OF
THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS TO BECOME AMERICAN
CITIZENS AND STATED, "IT STRIKES ME AS RATHER ODD THAT
THIS GREAT NATION NOW OBSERVING ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY IS

EVEN HESITATING TO RECEIVE A MERE 15,000 PEOPLE WHO
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WISH TO BECOME AMERICAN CITIZENS. REJECTION OF THIS REQUEST IN THE SENATE WOULD BE AN ODD BICENTENNIAL HAPPENING. SURELY, THE MEMBERS (OF THE COMMITTEE) MUST REALIZE THAT OUR GOVERNMENT HAS NEGOTIATED THIS AGREEMENT OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL YEARS. WITH ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE CONGRESS, AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS, INCLUDING BOTH THE SENATORS FROM HAWAII."

"THE POPULATION OF 15,000 CONSISTS OF ABOUT 2,000 FAMILIES. THE MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES TELL ME THEIR FAMILIES ARE CLOSE, AND THEY TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES. AT PRESENT, ONLY A FEW HUNDRED ARE ON WELFARE, BASED ON THEIR CURRENT TRUST TERRITORIAL STATUS. THE COMMITTEE MUST REALIZE THAT THE BIRTHRATE OF THE UNITED STATES PROVIDES FOR AN INCREASE OF 15,000 PEOPLE IN ONLY THREE DAYS, AND THE NET GAIN CONSIDERING IMMIGRATION AND OTHER FACTORS IS 8,000 PER DAY, A NUMBER WHICH WOULD BE GREATER IN TWO DAYS THAN THOSE COMING IN FROM THE MARIANAS. THOSE CITIZENS BRING SOMETHING TO US, SOMETHING OF GREAT BENEFIT, THEIR LAND, AND THEIR PATRIOTISM."
END OF QUOTE.

DOTA SENDS.
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