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P.O. Box 321
Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356

November 26, 1974

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Sir:

The enclosed article recently served to call my attention to an apparently disgracefully imperialistic state of affairs to which your personal representative, F. Hadyn Williams, is an active party. I am referring to the proposed annexation by the United States of the Mariana Islands - a part of the United Nations Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, which is currently administered by the U.S. and is supposedly scheduled for independence.

Until reading of this situation I had supposed U.S. policy towards indigenous non-citizens under its protection to have finally matured beyond gross disregard for the rights of such people to self-determination. However, Mr. Williams, acting as your representative, has apparently chosen to totally ignore the valid desire for autonomy expressed by legitimate representatives of the people of the Marianas in favor of the interest in annexation expressed by the members of the local "negotiating team," whose anticipatory speculative activities clearly place them in a conflict of interests, rendering them unfit to represent anything save their own greed.

As a veteran of the recent conflict in South East Asia, I recognize that the Pentagon expansionism underlying this situation is at best a difficult force to control. However, I had hoped that our recent military adventure in South East Asia had served to re-instruct us in a lesson from our own history: it is dangerous as well as impossible to ignore the will and desires of the people for long.

I would therefore appreciate your explanation of Mr. William's conduct in this matter, as he would appear to be yet another unfortunate example of the type of thinking which has already cost us so much in the Western Pacific.

Sincerely,
Paul VanNiewerburgh
Paul VanNiewerburgh

Enclosure
cc:

United Nations Trusteeship Council
Senator Walter D. Huddleston
Representative Tim Lee Carter



Why U.S. wants the Marianas

Pentagon envisions an island military complex

By ROGER GALE
Pacific News Service

Roger Gale, former chairman of the political science department at the University of Guam, just returned from a fact finding trip in Micronesia.

TINIAN, MICRONESIA.—The United States may soon make its first outright territorial acquisition in more than half a century.—the proposed commonwealth of the Marianas, 14 islands located 1,600 miles off the Asian mainland. Already administered by the United States under a United Nations trusteeship, the islands would become formal U.S. territory through an act of Congress.

Driving force behind the acquisition effort is the Pentagon, which has begun plans to construct a \$800 million air and naval base on Tinian, the flat-topped volcanic island in the Marianas chain, from which the U.S. launched the B-29 Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The Pentagon views the Tinian base as part of the Nixon doctrine's goal to secure more strategic fallback positions. Along with nearby Guam—a U.S. territory since the Spanish-American war—Tinian will be a key military complex in the Pacific on U.S. waters.

Unknown to the public, and not yet a major Congressional issue, private talks aimed at an agreement on the acquisition have been under way for some time between the President's personal representative (who holds the rank of Ambassador) and a group of Marianas Islanders.

Just as the 2,000 islands that make up the rest of Micronesia, the Marianas came under U.S. control with the defeat of Japanese forces during World War II. Last year, however, the United States announced it had agreed to return Micronesia land to the Micronesians, with the understanding that

the Micronesians would submit to a "formal commitment to accommodate Pentagon needs" in "good faith." Now, while the rest of Micronesia is pressing for self-government and independence, the Marianas negotiating team is pushing for full U.S. territorial status.

According to Edward Pangelinan, chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission, "the 14,000 people of the Marianas want to become part of the American family as soon as possible."

Pangelinan, along with a number of other members of the negotiating team, has been involved in land speculation on Tinian. Before the United States placed a moratorium on land transactions on the island last year, the negotiators were buying up land from those few Tinian residents who owned their own homesteads—planting to sell it either to the military or to gambling and resort interests. Pangelinan is an attorney for the reputedly underworld-controlled Bally Corporation—the largest manufacturer of slot machines in the world.

Chief U.S. negotiator F. Haydn Williams says talks with the Marianas representatives have "resolved nearly all fundamental questions," and predicts a final agreement will be reached this fall, allowing the acquisition plan to be submitted for Congressional approval next year. Williams, a deputy assistant secretary of defense from 1958 to 1962, is now president of The Asia Foundation, a San Francisco based organization that funds educational projects and that—according to the New York Times—has been closely linked to the CIA.

PENTAGON PLANS: call for turning two-thirds of the Marianas-shaped island into a combined air base, supply

and Marine guerrilla training base with live air and naval bombardment of the island. Williams, however, assures the people that "military operations and their noise will not disturb them."

Announced in May 1973, the number of troops stationed there has more than tripled. During war exercises, as many as 15,000 troops are scheduled to be on the island.

The Pentagon also plans to maintain control of two parcels of land on nearby Saipan (where the CIA trained Chinese Nationalist guerrillas between 1951-62) and to continue use of its target range on a small uninhabited island 45 miles north of Tinian.

Tinian is Micronesia's most fertile and productive island, with 900 people living and farming on 40 square miles. Ben Manglona, Tinian's agronomist, asserts that "Tinian could easily feed everyone in Micronesia." This winter Tinian even plans to sell watermelon and cantaloupe in West Coast markets. A cattle ranch on the island already is supplying Micronesia's beef and pork and soon will begin producing the first fresh milk in the Western Pacific. But Manglona complains that "it will be a little difficult to be farmers when the Pentagon plans to turn our best land into an airbase. All they plan to leave us is a rocky hillside."

As the Pentagon quietly pursues its acquisition plans, supported by speculation from Saipan, opposition to the takeover is mounting. The United Nations Trusteeship Council is repeatedly on record in opposition to the private Micronesia talks. The Congress of Micronesia also opposes the talks and, says Toshiyo Nakayama, president of the Senate, "Micronesia must remain unlimited. We will continue to oppose any U.S. attempt to dismember our nation."

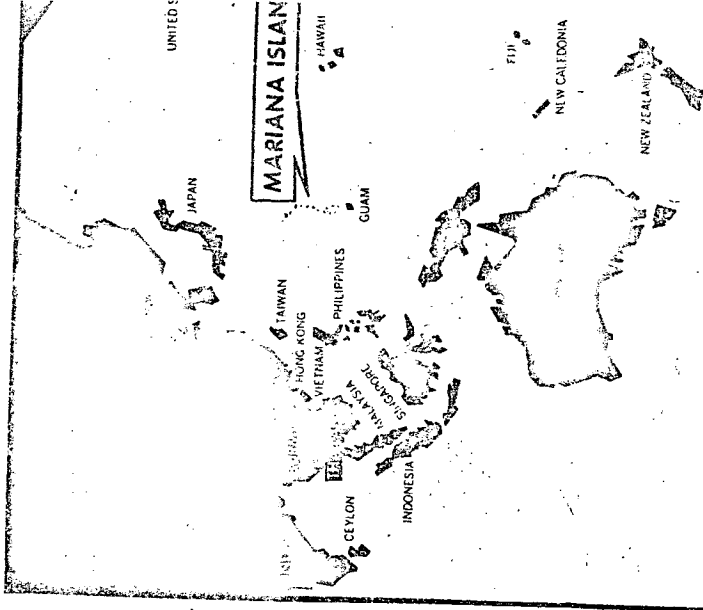
In response to U.S. cancellation last spring of a referendum drawn up by the Tinian council, more than half of the adult population signed a petition opposing U.S. plans, calling for an end to the talks, and saying they no longer wished to be represented by the present Marianas negotiators. Williams refused to accept the petition.

When Williams announced that a surveying team would be visiting the island in September, Tinian's newly elected mayor, Felipe Mendiola, replied in a letter, "You and your surveyors are not at all welcome on the island of Tinian. Be guided accordingly." Mendiola is also head of the newly formed Tinian Committee for Justice, which plans to send a delegation to Washington to lobby against the base.

Although Congress has not yet been asked to authorize construction of the base, the House Appropriations Committee said last month that "it doubts that construction of a new base complex can be justified." And a number of congressmen, including Senator Alan Cranston, D-Calif., and Congressman Ronald Dellums, D-Calif., are already on record against its construction.

AS A HEDGE against the possibility that Congress may refuse to appropriate funds, one Navy source says that Seabees from Guam may be called in to begin construction—as they were during the first phase of building several years ago on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. (The Defense Department appropriates general funds for Seabee "construction work.") In addition, Air Force plans call for a "bare base capability" that will allow portable base facilities, already in storage in New Mexico, to be used on an interim basis.

But what the Pentagon is really counting on to secure the base is the



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successful conclusion of the negotiation talks with the Marianas representatives. Although no formal request for acquisition of the Marianas has yet been made to Congress, Williams and other administration spokesmen are beginning to make appearances before Congressional committees. Philip Burton, D-Calif., chairman of the House subcommittee on island territories, already has given his tentative vote in favor of the takeover. Congressional approval of the new commonwealth arrangement will facilitate final approval of funds for the base—which would then be on U.S. territory.

The major stumbling block left in the negotiations comes ironically from the Marianas team, who now find it

more lucrative to lease the islands, have purchased, rather than to sell them, as the Pentagon desires. It is doubtful that the islands will be granted to the United States under the terms of the national law, the United States has the power of eminent domain. The land in the Marianas is owned by the Tinian as homesteads. The opponents of the takeover are much real bargaining power. "As far as the Trust Territory says, Micronesia Congress is the Micronesians, and the American territory."

U.S. wants the Marianas in envisions an island military complex

By ROGER GALE
Pacific News Service

The Micronesians would submit to a "formal commitment to accommodate Pentagon needs" in good faith. Now, while the rest of Micronesia is pressing for self-government and independence, the Marianas negotiating team is pushing for full U.S. territorial status.

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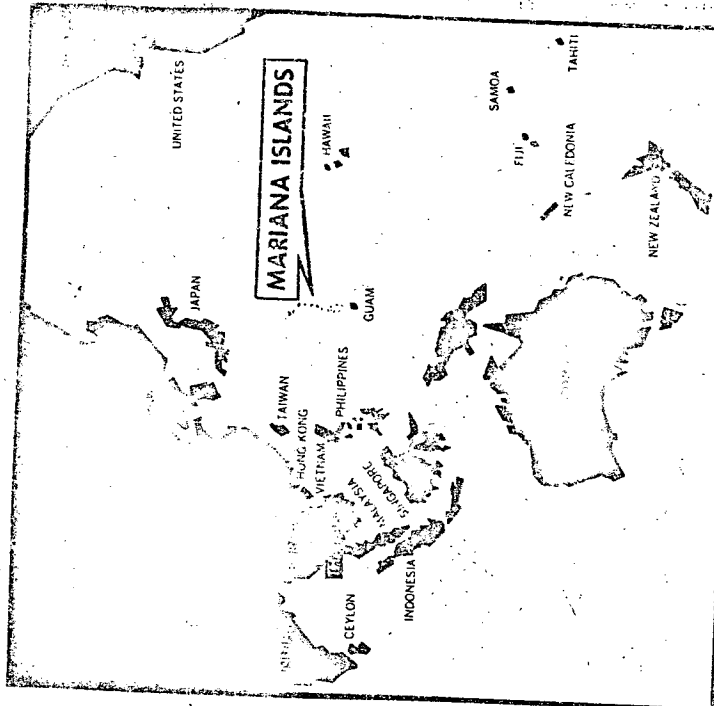
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The major stumbling block left in the negotiations comes ironically from the Marianas' fear, who now find it

more lucrative to lease the land they have purchased, rather than sell it outright as the Pentagon desires. However, it is doubtful that the talks can be stalled long on this issue. Under international law, the United States owns 90 per cent of the land in the Marianas, even has the power of eminent domain, and Tinian as homesteads. This means that neither the Marianas negotiators nor the opponents of the takeover have much real bargaining power.

"As far as the Trust Territory goes," says Micronesian Congressman Ataji Buios, "it is the Micronesians who have the trust, and the Americans who have the territory."



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NBR
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR	
12	18	12	18	16	7406208

INITIAL ACTION

TO: PRES _____
 KISSINGER _____
 SCOWCROFT F
 DAVIS _____

FROM: KISSINGER, H _____
 COLBY, W _____
 SCHLESINGER, J _____
 ST EX SEC F

REFERENCE: 7424224 CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE
 UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT
 LOU NO FORN NODIS
 C EYES ONLY EXDIS
 S CODEWORD
 TS SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: Genl Lte to Pres re Van Fleverburgh criticism of Genl F. Hyde Williams conduct of the Northern Marianas political status negotiations

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

	ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/SCOWCROFT			
STAFF SECRETARY			
FAR EAST <u>Roche</u>	<u>X</u>		
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA			
MID EAST / NO. AFRICA / SO. ASIA			
EUROPE / CANADA			
LATIN AMERICA			
UNITED NATIONS			
ECONOMIC			
SCIENTIFIC			
PROGRAM ANALYSIS			
NSC PLANNING			
CONGRESSIONAL			
OCEANS POLICY			
INTELLIGENCE <u>Smyser</u>			<u>✓</u>

ACTION REQUIRED

MEMO FOR HAK _____

MEMO FOR PRES _____

REPLY FOR _____

APPROPRIATE ACTION _____

MEMO _____ TO _____

RECOMMENDATIONS _____

JOINT MEMO _____

REFER TO _____ FOR: _____

ANY ACTION NECESSARY? To R. Elliott X

CONCURRENCE. To R. Elliott X

DUE DATE: 12-25

COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

DATE	FROM	TO	S	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	CY TO
<u>3/20/75</u>	<u>JRM</u>	<u>NSC/S</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>OB</u>	

DISPATCH _____

CY RQMTS: SEE ABOVE PLUS: _____

NOTIFY _____ & DATE _____ BY _____

SPECIAL DISPOSITION: _____

CROSS REF W/ _____

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: X FOLDER: _____

MICROFILM & FILE RQMTS:

M/F'D 3/22/75 BY _____

CRT ID: _____

OPEN GAO

CLOSE _____

SA SF
 HP NS
 WH EP
 PA DY

Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library

Name	Date
Pat Byrne	4/11/75

NOV 14 1975
 22412 30803
 10782 11700 20000

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THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

7424224

To: The Secretary of State

Date: December 9, 1974

ACTION REQUESTED

- Draft reply for:
 - President's signature.
 - Undersigned's signature.
- Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- Direct reply.
- Furnish information copy.
- Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- For your information.
- For comment.

NOTE

Prompt action is essential.

If more than 72 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone ^{Miss Byrne} the undersigned immediately, Code ~~1450~~ 456-2724.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Description:

Letter: _____ Telegram: _____ Other: _____

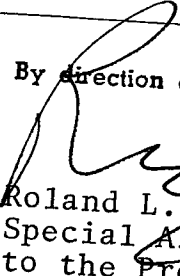
To: The President

From: Paul VanNiewerburgh, P.O. Box 321, Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356

Date: November 26, 1974

Subject: Writer against proposed annexation by the U.S. of the Mariana Islands, a part of the U.N. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

By direction of the President:


 Roland L. Elliott
 Special Assistant
 to the President

RLE:pb

(Copy to remain with correspondence)

