# SENATE & HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE STAFF BRIEFING - 2/25/75



# I. Results of February meetings in Saipan.

#### A. Covenant

- 1. Changes in text.
  - Section 105 New language; reservation removed.
  - Section 202 Removed reservation
  - Section 203(c)
    - New language "May" vs. "Will".
    - Note in negotiating history.
  - Section 501(a)
    - Sections of Constitution applicable of own force.
    - Note in negotiating history.
  - Section 501(b)
    - New language Mink/Burton
    - Note in negotiating history.
  - Section 502(5) and (c) Burton
  - Section 503 Ditto
  - Section 506 new language; same substance.
  - Section 605 U.S. Government transactions.
  - Section 606 new language; same substance (Burton)
  - Section 703(a) Reservation removed.
  - Section 704(d) and Section 803(b)
    - Dept/Commerce vs. Guam index.
    - Note in negotiating history regarding deflator.

- Section 1001(a) 55 % vs. 51%.
- 2. Negotiating history highlights.
  - Section 501(a) Authority of U.S. to legislate under specific provisions of Constitution.
  - Section 502 Power of Congress to alter laws.
  - Section 904(c) Puerto Rico and Carribean Bank
  - Section 1002 Trusteeship termination by 1981.

#### B. Technical Agreement

- 1. Origins: Land committee report.
- 2. Highlights (for Armed Services Committee) (?)
  - Leasing provisions.
    - Legal entity.
    - Five year grace period.
    - Settlement of claims and encumbrances.
    - MDC responsibilities.

### - <u>Leasebacks</u>

- Present grazing leases.
- Present private owners.

### - Joint Use

- Tinian Harbor.
- West Field.

## - Social and Civil Infrastructure.

- Fishing, shoreline and beaches.
- Utilities.
- -Medical and fire.
- BX, schools, community assistance.

3. U.S. Congress for information, not approval.

# II. <u>Next steps - Marianas</u>

#### A. <u>Plebiscite</u>.

- 1. Organization
  - Deputy HICOM and Speical Assistant.
  - Advisory Board.
  - Voter Registration Commission.
- 2. Role of U.S. Government and Marianas Political Status Commission.
- Activities in U.N.
  - Trusteeship Council Meeting.
  - Observers.
- 4. <u>Timing</u>
  - Mid-late June.
  - U.N. problem.
- B. <u>U.S. Congressional Briefings</u>.
  - 1. Entries in journals.
  - 2. \_\_ Other committees:
    - Armed Services
    - Foreign Affairs.
    - Appropriations.
    - Judiciary, etc.
  - 3. Possibility of early hearings and joint report.
- C. Formal Submission to Congress.
  - 1. Timing.
  - 2. Nature of Congressional action.
    - Joint resolution?
    - Other enabling legislation?

- D. Separate Administration.
  - 1. Timing.
  - 2. Transition
    - Membership
    - Name.
- III. Next steps Joint Committee on Future Status.
  - A. Unity Issue.
    - 1. Palau
    - 2. Marshalls.
  - B. <u>Tactics with JCFS</u>.
    - 1. SJR-6-29.
      - Dependency and bad faith.
      - End run to Congress.
    - 2. Salii February 5th letter.
    - 3. U.S. response.
    - 4. Relation to oversight hearings.