

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION  
1436

**C.F.**

*JW*

ST 51

CONFIDENTIAL GDS

March 14, 1975

1975 MAR 17 AM 10 07

MEMORANDUM FOR WARREN RUSTAND

FROM: Jeanne W. Davis *JWD*

SUBJECT: Proposed Call on the President by  
Two Northern Marianas Leaders

We believe the call on the President by the two Marianas political leaders, Mr. Pangelinin and Senator Tenorio, is particularly important for two reasons:

-- The opponents of the Covenant that we just signed with the Northern Marianas are taking every advantage of hostile statements in the U. S. Congress (e. g. , by Senators Hart and Kennedy) to argue that American political opinion is against the Covenant and that the U. S. does not care about the Marianas. The President's readiness to meet with two Marianas political figures who support the Covenant would undercut these arguments dramatically and would have a highly favorable impact in the upcoming Plebiscite.

-- The Marianas are not just a bunch of little islands in the middle of nowhere. They are strategically located north of Guam and east of Japan; one of them, Tinian, will be one of our most important strategic centers in the Pacific with a large air base. Moreover, they will represent the first U. S. territorial addition since 1917.

Ambassador Haydn Williams, the President's Personal Representative for the negotiations with the Marianas and with other Trust Territories of the Pacific, strongly recommends the meeting although he has been told that the President's schedule is very crowded. He has also told us that the two gentlemen would be prepared to extend their stay until next week to meet the President.

Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library

CONFIDENTIAL GDS

14314 5/31/90