

MEMORANDUM

1436

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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ACTION

March 18, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM:

JOHN A. FROEBE, JR. *JAF*

SUBJECT:

Talking Points for the President's Meeting with Two Northern Marianas Political Leaders on March 19, 1975 at 4:15 p.m.

At Tab I are recommended talking points for the President's meeting with two Northern Marianas political leaders scheduled for March 19, 1975 at 4:15 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft memorandum to the President at Tab I.

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HR
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: March 14, 1975

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

VIA: Warren S. Rustand

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MEETING: Courtesy call on you by two Northern Marianas political leaders -- Mr. Edward Pangelinan, Chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission, and Senator P. A. Tenorio.

DATE: Any time during the period March 10-18, 1975.

PURPOSE: To demonstrate the importance we attach to the recently concluded commonwealth agreement with the Northern Marianas, and to Micronesia generally.

FORMAT: - The Oval Office
- Messrs. Pangelinan and Tenorio, Ambassador Williams, and General Scowcroft
- 10 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None.

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points would be provided.

PRESS COVERAGE: Meeting to be announced.
Official photographer.

STAFF: Henry A. Kissinger

RECOMMEND: Henry A. Kissinger, Ambassador F. Haydn Williams, Your Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations

OPPOSED: None.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: To the best of our knowledge, you have met neither of these gentlemen.

[Dispatched fm WB 3/14 (btm)]

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BACKGROUND:

On February 15 we signed an agreement with the Northern Marianas making them a commonwealth of the U.S. This is the first U.S. territorial addition since 1917. It is also the first time in history that a trusteeship territory has asked to merge with the administering metropolitan state.

The Marianas broke away from the other five districts of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI) in early 1972, in order to negotiate a closer political union with the U.S. than that desired by the other five districts.

The commonwealth agreement must now be submitted to a plebiscite, which we hope will be held before next July. The agreement must also be submitted to our Congress. There is some opposition in the Northern Marianas to the agreement, and leaders in the other five districts have not yet given up their effort to bring the Northern Marianas back into their fold.

A meeting between you and these two leaders would have a beneficial impact on preparations for the plebiscite.

Pangelinan has been one of the leading advocates of commonwealth within the U.S. political union, and Mr. Tenorio has just been elected as a Senator to succeed Pangelinan in the Congress of Micronesia. They are good friends of ours. Both will be here to testify at the Jackson Committee hearings on our administration of the TTPI.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

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