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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

VIA LDX NSC-1436

March 19, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. George S. Springsteen Executive Secretary Department of State

SUBJECT:

Presidential Appointment for Northern Marianas Political Leaders

For your information, the President has agreed to receive Edward Pangelinan, Chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission and Senator P. A. Tenorio today at 4:15 PM.

Jeanne Staff S



Sent DK 84 36 NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WHITE HOUSE SITUATION BORGM DATE: URGENT 4M 秘程:19 12 SITUATION ROOM: PLEASE LDX the attached to STATE ASAP, and return to me. Jeanne W. Davis GALO RALO (x-3440) Room 374-OEOB URGENT $\left(\cdot \right)$

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THE WHITE HOUSE

-CONFIDENTIAL GDS WASHINGTON

MEETING WITH TWO NORTHERN MARIANAS POLITICAL LEADERS -- MR. EDWARD PANGELINAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, AND SENATOR P. A. TENORIO Wednesday, March 19, 1975 4:15 p.m. (10 minutes) The Oval Office From: Henry A. Kissinger

I. <u>PURPOSE</u>

To demonstrate the importance we attach to the recently concluded Commonwealth Covenant with the Northern Marianas, and to Micronesia generally.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS ARRANGEMENTS:

 <u>Background</u>: 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 Northern Marianas over the past quarter century has consistently pressed for such a closer relationship with us.

The Commonwealth Covenant must now be submitted to a plebiscite, which we plan to hold before next July. The agreement must also be submitted to our Congress, where some opposition to the agreement has begun to develop. In a Senate vote March 17 on a budgetary authorization of \$1.5 million for transition costs in the Northern Marianas, Senator Gary Hart mobilized 39 votes against the authorization -which nevertheless passed. Almost all of the 39 came from



liberal Democrats, who contended that the U.S. no longer has strategic interests in Asia and the Western Pacific. There is also some opposition in the Northern Marianas to the Commonwealth Covenant, and leaders in the other five districts have not yet given up their effort to bring the Northern Marianas back into their fold.

Your meeting with Messrs. Pangelinan and Tenorio will 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 have been here to testify at the Jackson Committee hearings on our administration of the TTPI.

- B. <u>Participants</u>: Messrs. Pangelinan and Tenorio, General Scowcroft, and Mr. James M. Wilson, Jr., Deputy Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations.
- C. <u>Press Arrangements</u>: Photo opportunity. The call will be announced routinely, and the press will be briefed following the meeting.

III. <u>TALKING POINTS</u>

- 1. I appreciate the long-standing desire on the part of the people of the Northern Marianas to associate themselves with the U.S. in a closer political relationship.
- I am extremely pleased that we have successfully concluded this Covenant of Political Union, which is the result of serious but amicable negotiations between your Political Status Commission and Ambassador Williams, my Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, and Mr. Wilson, his deputy, on our side.
- 3. On behalf of the American people, I want to express our conviction that the Covenant gives us the framework for an enduring and mutually beneficial relationship.



<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>

4. I want to assure you in the clearest terms possible that the U.S., as a Pacific power, has vital interests in Asia and the Pacific, and that it intends to continue to play an essential role in helping preserve the peace and stability of the region.

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL GDS

ACTION

March 18, 1975

1436

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

JOHN A. FROEBE, JR.

SECRETARY KISSINGER

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.

-CONFIDENTIAL GDS HR 9120199



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL DATE: March 14, 1975 FROM: Henry A. Kissinger VIA: Warren S. Rustand

<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> GDS

MEETING:

DATE:

FORMAT:

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.

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.

- The Oval Office

- Messrs. Pangelinan and Tenorio, Ambassador Williams, and General Scowcroft

- 10 minutes

None.

CABINET PARTICIPATION:

SPEECH MATERIAL:

Talking points would be provided.

Meeting to be announced. Official photographer.

Henry A. Kissinger

PRESS COVERAGE:

STAFF:

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)]

<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> GDS HR 9/20199 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.

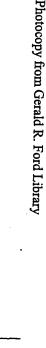
The commonwealth agreement must now be submitted to a plebiscite, which we hope will be held before next July. The agreement must also be submitted to our Congress. There is some opposition in the Northern Marianas to the agreement, and leaders in the other five districts have not yet given up their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





MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL GDS

March 14, 1975

ACTION

1436

MEMORANDUM FOR WARREN RUSTAND

FROM:

Jeanne W. Davis

SUBJECT:

Proposed Call on the President by Two Northern Marianas Leaders

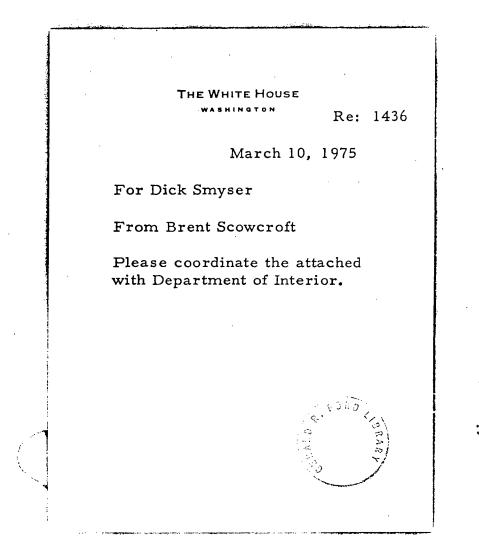
We believe the call on the President by the two Marianas political leaders, Mr. Pangelinin and Senator Tenorio, is particularly important for two reasons:

-- 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.

<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> GDS 4/R 9/20/99



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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

-CONFIDENTIAL GDS

URGENT ACTION

March 7, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

W. R. SMYSER WRS/ HOF-

SECRETARY KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Proposed Call on the President by Two Northern Marianas Leaders

At Tab A is a draft Schedule Proposal from you to the President recommending that he receive for a brief courtesy call two Northern Marianas political leaders who will be here March 10-14 to testify before the Jackson Committee hearings on our administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI). Ambassador F. Haydn Williams, the President's Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, has recommended this call as a means of strengthening support for the Commonwealth Covenant which we signed with the Northern Marianas on February 15. The Covenant is to be submitted to a plebiscite before next July. There is some opposition in the Northern Marianas to the agreement, and leaders in the other five districts of Micronesia have not yet given up their effort to bring the Northern Marianas back into their fold.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the draft Schedule Proposal for the President at Tab A.

<u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> GDS HR 9/2∞199 Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library

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