

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE 5/22/75

EXECUTIVE
5757
FG38

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO: Sec. Kissinger

FROM: W. F. Smyser

SUBJECT:

Proposed Call on the Vice
President for two Prominent
Mariana Islands Political Leaders

Williams, J. Hayden

CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE



MEMORANDUM

G. J. 3522

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION

May 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM:

W. R. SMYSER

SUBJECT:

Proposed Call on the Vice President for Two Prominent Mariana Islands Political Leaders -- President Santos and Senator Borja

At Tab A is a draft Schedule Proposal from you to the Vice President recommending that he receive two prominent Mariana Islands political leaders -- President of the Marianas District Legislature Vicente N. Santos and Senator Olympio T. Borja, for a brief courtesy call.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

Disapproved by General Scowcroft 5/23

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1975 5/21/90

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE:

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

VIA: Ann Whitman

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MEETING:

Courtesy call on you by two prominent Mariana Islands political leaders -- President of the Marianas District Legislature Vicente N. Santos and Senator Olympio T. Borja.

DATE:

May 23 or 24, 1975.

PURPOSE:

To reaffirm the importance we attach to our prospective commonwealth relationship with the Marianas on the eve of the plebiscite on the Commonwealth Agreement.

FORMAT:

- The Old Executive Office Building office
- 10 minutes
- The President's Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, Ambassador F. Haydn Williams

SPEECH

MATERIAL:

Talking points would be provided.

PRESS

COVERAGE:

The call would be announced in advance.

STAFF:

Secretary Kissinger

RECOMMEND:

Secretary Kissinger

OPPOSED:

None

PREVIOUS

PARTICIPATION:

To the best of our knowledge you have not met either President Santos or Senator Borja.

BACKGROUND:

Your receiving these two Marianas political leaders would be an effective demonstration of the high importance we attach to our new Commonwealth Agreement with the Mariana Islands. The Agreement will be voted on in

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(311 2/5/75)

a plebiscite on June 17. The Mariana Islands, one of the six districts in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, three years ago formally opted for a closer relationship with the U. S. than that desired by the other five districts. If the Agreement is approved by the plebiscite, the Mariana Islands, of which Guam is geographically a part, will become the first new U. S. territorial acquisition since 1971 when we acquired the Virgin Islands.

We expect the plebiscite to be approved, but we cannot take this outcome for granted. A Carolinian minority in the Marianas is vigorously opposing the Commonwealth Agreement, and there is also some opposition in the United States Senate and in the United Nations.

President Santos and Senator Borja have long been identified as two of the strongest supporters of a commonwealth arrangement with the U. S. President Santos is Vice Chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission, which negotiated the Agreement with us, and Senator Borja is a former member of that body. Your meeting with them would boost the chances for a strong positive majority vote in the plebiscite.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

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