

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 20, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to extend to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands my personal greetings and to convey to them my pleasure with the results of the plebiscite held on June 17, 1975. I have been informed that a substantial majority has voted in favor of the Commonwealth Covenant in free and open balloting observed by the United Nations and preceded by a fair and impartial education program. I wish personally to congratulate and commend all of those who were responsible for the conduct of the plebiscite, including the Plebiscite Commissioner and his staff, the Voter Registration Board and the Plebiscite Advisory Committee.

The people of the Northern Marianas have now spoken. The next step will be consideration of the Covenant by the Congress of the United States. I intend to submit without delay the Covenant to the Congress with my strong endorsement for its early favorable action. It is my earnest hope that we may look forward to further steps in the near future which will move the people of the Northern Mariana Islands still closer to the long-desired ultimate goal of political union with the United States. I know the American people join with me in sending to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands our warmest regards.

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PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

Alphonse Pangelinan

Marianas Delegation

- 1 Stand Edward DLG. Pangelinan (Chairman, Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: October 24, 1941
- 2 Stand Pedro Tenorio (Senator, Congress of Micronesia) DOB: August 8, 1941
- 4 Manuel A. Sablan, DOB: December 27, 1944
- 3 Stand Vicente N. Santos (President, Mariana Islands District Legislature) DOB: December 2, 1933
- 5 Olympio T. Borja (Senator, Congress of Micronesia) DOB: July 26, 1930
- Antonio C. Atalig, DOB: December 31, 1923
- Misael Ogo, DOB: January 14, 1940
- Felipe C. Mendiola, DOB: August 16, 1911 *Fought all the way*
- Vicente D. Sablan, DOB: January 23, 1924
- 5 Joaquin I. Pangelinan, DOB: June 21, 1942
- Francisco C. Ada, DOB: September 26, 1934
- Lorenzo I. Guerrero, DOB: January 25, 1935
- 6 Daniel T. Muna, DOB: January 8, 1937
- Santiago B. Magofna, DOB: March 28, 1932
- Ricardo Duenas, DOB: September 15, 1940
- Francisco Diaz, DOB: October 8, 1936
- Juan Cabrera, DOB: May 2, 1934
- Manuel D. Muna, DOB: December 24, 1936
- William Nabors (Legal Counsel for Mariana Islands District Legislature) DOB: June 28, 1933
- 7 Howard P. Willens (Legal Counsel for Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: May 27, 1931
- Michael Helfer (Legal Counsel for Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: August 2, 1945
- Jay Lapin (Legal Counsel for Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: July 15, 1945
- James R. Leonard (Consultant for Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: January 5, 1933
- James White (Executive Director, Marianas Political Status Commission) DOB: July 3, 1933

PHOTOCOPY FROM GERALD FORD LIBRARY

~~Jose Calvo~~
Office for Micronesian Status Negotiations

- Ambassador F. Haydn Williams + wife
- Mary Vance Trent
- Adrian de Graffenried
- David Schiele
- Stephen Loftus
- Richard Wyttenbach
- Roger Crump
- Keith Caplinger
- Marianne Long
- Colleen Greer

*Secretary
Doris Treaski*

*Shelley
to
invite*

~~Secretary David~~

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