


NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

URGENT ACTION

June 23, 1975

*Tab A
funded
6-26-75*

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: W. R. SMYSER 

SUBJECT: Presidential Letter Transmitting a Proposed Joint Resolution Approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

As you know, the people of the Northern Mariana Islands voted in a plebiscite on June 17 to approve the commonwealth status as set forth in the "Covenant to establish the commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union with the United States of America." Attached at Tabs I and II are letters from the President to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House transmitting a proposed Joint Resolution which would provide Congressional approval of the Covenant. At Tab IV is an additional copy of the proposed Joint Resolution.

A letter from the President's Personal Representative, Ambassador F. Haydn Williams, formally requesting that the Covenant be submitted to Congress as soon as possible is attached at Tab III. According to Ambassador Williams, Congressional leaders would like to act on the Covenant before the August recess and he requests speedy transmission of the resolution to Congress.

The President's letters to Congress and the Joint Resolution have been cleared through all the interested departments by OMB and approved by Mr. Friedersdorf. Paul Theis' office has also cleared the text of the President's letters.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the attached memorandum at Tab A to the President forwarding the above documents.

Cleared with Les Janka and Clint Granger.

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