

TALKING POINTS ON INDEPENDENCE.

Record is clear.

U.S. has not refused to discuss the matter since Barbers Point.

- On the contrary, we have repeatedly asked our Micronesian colleagues to define more precisely what they have in mind - how they define independence - and this they have not yet done.

- Clearly we cannot say "yea" or "nay" until we know what is meant by the term and have had a chance to study it and review the implications in some depth.

Independence means different things to different people.

- Nations of the West Indies, for example, refer to themselves as independent even though the United Kingdom, with whom they are associated, has at their request undertaken a large measure of responsibility for their defense.

- Cook Islands, however, in free association with New Zealand, which handles foreign affairs and defense, do not consider themselves even sovereign, let alone independent.

- Timing another factor still to be explored as pointed out earlier.

- Real question is what people of MICRO themselves want, and up to now their representatives have consistently said free associations *best choice.*

INTEGRATION OF THE MARIANAS

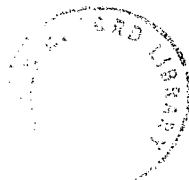
"The Commission feels that the United States and the United Nations, as well as Micronesians, must consider this issue and arrive at an accommodation which respects the interests of Micronesia at large, the interests of the Marianas district, and the interests of minorities within the Marianas district. The Commission also hopes that people of the Marianas District will have a chance to hear all sides of the status question; that speakers will be able to present their views in a reasonable atmosphere and that - after calm discourse and careful study - the residents of the district will be given a chance to register their will in an organized, statistically sound fashion.

" Ultimately, the question of reintegration must be resolved by the United States and the United Nations for it was they, not the Political Status Commission, which brought the districts of Micronesia together.

" But, in reporting this "particular circumstance" in the Marianas, the Commission urges the Congress to assist in a resolution which will be generally satisfactory. The Political Status Commission hereby indicates that, unless the projected harm to minorities in the Marianas or to Micronesia at large is intolerable, it will not oppose a political union which reflects the freely-expressed desire of a majority of the residents of the district. The Political Status Commission also registers its hope that the course of separation will not be taken until all possibilities for partnership have been explored."

*- Report of the Future Political
Status Commission,*

*COM
July 1969*



Integration-Marianas

JCFS on Separate Talks with Marianas

Hana, Maui, Hawaii

October, 1971

"We recognize the aspirations of the people of the Marianas District to share in U.S. benefits that independence bestows on your great country by becoming more closely affiliated with the United States".

- Senator Lazarus Salii
Chairman, JCFS

Salii quote
re: Sep. Talks/Marianas

Pangelinan Before UNTC May 1972

"There is ... a note that was made in the Third Round of Negotiations in Hana, Maui, where the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Future Status Senator Salii, said that the people of the Marianas aspired to become part of the United States. Also, in the last special session of the Congress of Micronesia, Senator Salii noted that any discussion on political status should also entail the special interests of individual districts and we have been expressing this interest to the Joint Committee. Unfortunately... the Joint Committee has a mandate which restricts its discussions to the territory as a whole. During the Fourth Round of the Negotiations in Koror, Palau, we transmitted a request to the Joint Committee and the Joint Committee made it very specific that we had to get permission from the Congress. The members of the Joint Committee, however, voted that we could present our special interests to the United States Delegation, and we did present a statement of position."

* * * * *

Guerrero Before UNTC May 1972

" During the recent Koror, Palau negotiations... we ... formally requested the JCFS to present on behalf of our people the aspirations of the people of the Marianas. They decided that this was outside their jurisdiction, but they authorized the representatives of the Marianas formally to present the petition of the Marianas, to the U.S... and we did."

* * * * *

Borja Before UNTC May 1972

"...it is correct to assume that it was the denial of commonwealth status by the COM that made the Marianas people come to this council and present this petition."

Marianas quotes (3)

