

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 27, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BARRY JAGODA *BJ*.
SUBJECT: Taping for Samoa and Mariana Islands

After you have revised and/or approved these brief remarks, we'll put them on teleprompter, for your taping at 11:00am, Wednesday, December 28th in the Roosevelt Room.

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Marianas Statement

When the United States claimed its right to self-government two hundred and two years ago, it spoke not just of its own interests, but of a standard people everywhere should enjoy.

That is why I am proud to send you my greetings, on behalf of the American people, as the powers of full self-government are handed back to you.

Our nations have been associated for many decades, during which we have prepared together for this day. We remember those years with satisfaction; but most of all we are proud that you have chosen to remain part of the American political family.

I am glad that my son, Jeff, can be with you to extend my best personal wishes, along with the Undersecretary of the Interior, James Joseph, who is an eloquent spokesman for your interests in Washington. With his guidance and advice, our government will work closely with Governor _____, Resident Representative _____, and the other officials of the Government of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The Covenant between our nations says that we "share the goals and values ... of government by the consent of the governed, individual freedom, and democracy." There is no nation we are prouder to be associated than yours, and no better guiding principle for this new beginning in your history.

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JF:12/27/77

American Samoa Statement

I am proud to send my greetings, on behalf of the American people, to Governor Coleman, Lieutenant Governor Tufele, and all the people of American Samoa on this happy day.

For more than three quarters of a century, our people have been linked by ties of common values, mutual respect, and shared interests in the world. We have taken up arms together to protect the cause of peace and freedom. We have worked together for prosperity and human development. We have learned from each other's culture.

And we have shared the belief that people should decide, in a democratic fashion, the questions that affect them most closely. Today, as your first elected leaders are inaugurated, the authority for decisions that affect American Samoa passes to the leaders the people of American Samoa have chosen.

I am glad that my son, Jeff, can be with you to extend my best personal wishes, along with the Undersecretary of the Interior, James Joseph, who is an eloquent spokesman for your interests in Washington.

As a former Governor, I know that Governor Coleman will have his trials and difficulties ahead; but I share your knowledge that today all of you have won a rich prize.

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From Ingida - 12/27

DRAFT OF POSSIBLE TAPE MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER
ON OCCASION OF THE INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR
OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

January 9, 1978, is a highly significant date in the history of the peoples of the Northern Mariana Islands. On this day the first governor of these islands, locally elected, will take office and will launch you on your course of full self-government.

Since 1521 when Magellan landed on Guam and claimed all of these islands for Spain, the islands and peoples of the Northern Marianas have been claimed by and governed by others. Today the reins of government are handed back to you. I have every confidence that they will be used wisely and well. The road down which you will travel will not be easy, but on behalf of the people of the United States I want to assure you that we welcome your initiative and pledge ourselves to help you make your new institutions of self-government work.

It is particularly gratifying to me that the peoples of the Northern Mariana Islands have chosen to cast their lot with the United States. The role of administering a foreign area is not a comfortable one for us and is not one we wish to continue

for long. But, whatever might have been the faults and shortcomings of our stewardship in the past, it is a source of satisfaction to Americans that the peoples of the Northern Mariana Islands are freely joining with us as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

I regret that it is not possible for me to be on Saipan on this auspicious occasion. However, I have asked the Under Secretary of the Interior, James A. Joseph, to serve as my personal representative. Under Secretary Joseph has been an eloquent spokesman for the territories of the United States and for the Northern Marianas. You could not ask for a stronger or better friend in Washington.

Under Jim Joseph's guidance and with his assistance, I assure you of our determination to work closely with Governor

_____, Resident Representative _____,

and other officials of the Government of the Northern Mariana

Islands. Working together we can make real the words of the

Covenant between the United States and the Northern Marianas that

we ". . . share the goals and values found in the American
system of government based upon the principles of government by
the consent of the governed, individual freedom and democracy
. . . ."