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Task Force on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

I attended the initial meeting of the Task Force on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands today in Assistant Secretary Carver's office. Representatives were there from Defense, State, HBW, and NSC. The meeting was largely organizational in nature. Assistant Secretary Carver indicated that he hoped the group could complete its work in a relatively short period of time. He hoped that emphasis could be placed on developing longer-range programs for the Trust Territory consistent with the goals set forth in NSC Memorandum 145.

The general approach would be to have the representative agencies develop staff papers on problem areas. Defense was assigned to do a paper on security problems. Interior was to give them the general program guidelines to which they could relate security considerations. State Department will also do a study on the status of Micronesia, particularly relating to loosening present restrictions on travel, and also giving their views on legislation that would allow Micronesians unrestricted entrance into the U.S. Interior was to develop in the next few days tentative assignments for the other agencies in other program areas.