

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

This document consists of 2 pages
No. 20 of 50 Copies, Series 2

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS REACHED AT MEETING OF PACIFIC STUDY GROUP
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. -- NOVEMBER 26-29, 1962

1. While independent sovereign status can be envisaged for 2 or 3 bigger places, other solutions short of sovereign independence will have to be sought for the remaining territories. Such solutions might include integration, free association (Puerto Rican example) and transfers of sovereignty with the consent of all peoples concerned.

2. The possible candidates for independence were:

- a. Fiji (if internal problems can be solved).
- b. Tonga (for historical reasons and the example of Western Samoa).
- c. Papua and New Guinea (with Solomons possibly included).

Independence might be acceptable to these territories on the Western Samoan pattern.

3. Further measures of practical cooperation are desirable and island leaders and administrations should be encouraged to extend them but artificial political groupings should not be pursued for their own sake.

4. Territories in which independence is not desired by the inhabitants or is not appropriate to their circumstances should not be forced to accept it as the result of outside pressure. All possible steps should be taken to anticipate and avoid such an outcome. The onus must be on the administering powers to formulate plans well in advance in order to provide a framework of self-government within which the aims of the islanders can be fully realized, and the acquiescence of the United Nations in the arrangements obtained if possible.

5. A determined effort should be mounted to secure the maximum degree of acceptance in the United Nations of solutions short of independence.

6. The four UN Missions should be invited to assess present and prospective attitudes of UN members and suggest the means by which the necessary acceptance might be secured. Possible methods for consideration might include the careful cultivation and education of potential supporters especially in the Afro/Asian group.

7. Where independence is the final solution the greatest care should be taken to ensure that the maintenance of security in the area will not be placed in jeopardy after the transfer of power to the territory concerned.

8. Consistent with security requirements, Japanese economic activities in the area should not be discouraged but should be a subject for continuing consultation in the study group.

DECLASSIFIED

9. Indonesian

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

- 2 -

9. Indonesian membership in the South Pacific Commission and influence in the area are undesirable.
10. It was thought that the French probably could not be dissuaded from conducting nuclear tests in the South Pacific, but that the net result would be to attract unwelcome attention to the area. Additional monitoring stations might offer some means of reassurance to the islanders.
11. Missions in Asian and African countries should keep a special watch for and exchange information on any display of interest in the South Pacific area.
12. There are no signs at present of significant Sino-Soviet activity in the area, but a close watch should be kept for signs of it.
13. It was agreed by the experts that the Study Group is a useful informal point of contact. It should continue in existence and meet from time to time.

DECLASSIFIED SECRET

OS-421807