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Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: January 27, 1964

SUBJECT: Future of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Duncan Campbell, First Secretary, Australian Embassy  
Mr. Donald Hunn, Second Secretary, Australian Embassy  
Mr. Cuthell, Acting Director, Office of Southwest Pacific Affairs  
Miss Frances McReynolds, Office of Southwest Pacific Affairs

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JAN 30 1964

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Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hunn were told in separate conversations today by Mr. Cuthell and Miss McReynolds that (1) the United States is now reviewing our policy on the political development of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; (2) this process of review is a long one, involving approval of several Departments of the Government before the plan can be sent to the President for approval; (3) consultations will have to be held with the Congress before the necessary legislation can be introduced; and (4) as soon as we are able to do so, we will inform our allies--especially, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom--in detail on our long-range political planning for this strategic area.

They thanked us for this general information and asked whether any target dates had been set by which time this would be accomplished. We said that there were no long-range, specific target dates. They then inquired about the pressures which motivated the review. We replied that we were under no specific pressure but that we were aware of our obligations under the Charter and of the fact that after this year there would be only the three Pacific territories left under the UN trusteeship system.

GROUP 3

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;  
declassified after 12 years.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

CONFIDENTIAL

REVIEWED BY W. V. Hreep DATE MAR. 4 1987

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