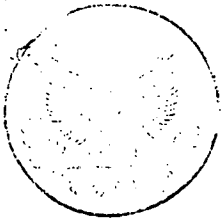


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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

THE REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS

REVIEWED BY B.H. BAAS DATE 4/10/87

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SECRET

December 22, 1965

Dear Dean,

As you so well know, one of the principal problems facing us in the United Nations is the question of colonialism, which plays such a tremendous part in the thinking of all Afro-Asian delegates here, affecting, in turn, their attitude toward us. While we have never considered ourselves a colonial power, the fact remains that for many in the United Nations we are. Our four remaining territories, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, are permanently on the agenda of the Committee on Decolonization and come before the General Assembly when the reports of that Committee are discussed each year.

This year the Assembly came perilously close to passing a resolution which would have had the effect of calling for the dismantling of our base in Guam, along with other bases in certain dependent territories. Only by dint of the most strenuous efforts, including approaches in capitals, were we able to eliminate the pertinent military base paragraphs from a resolution on colonialism in 26 small territories, including Guam.

I have written my thoughts concerning planning for the future of United States territories to Joe Sisco and will not repeat them in detail here. The purpose of this letter is to call the problem to your personal attention and to urge that the Department do everything possible to obtain a decision on the part of the Executive branch that we proceed, in the shortest possible time, to put the territories in a status such that we

The Honorable  
Dean Rusk,  
Secretary of State,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.

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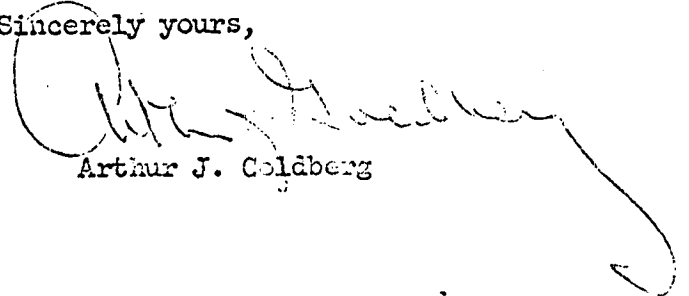
SECRET

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can remove them from the scrutiny of the United Nations. This removal will require considerable planning, a start on which has already been made, and will have to culminate in a credible act of self-determination.

I shall be happy to talk to you about this problem at any time and the Mission will be available to supply any assistance in the preparation of argumentation which is required. I am, however, certain of one thing - and that is that we must get on with this task and give it a high priority. No matter how fast we move, it will take quite a long time, and we shall come under increasingly critical scrutiny in the United Nations each year that goes by.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur J. Goldberg

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