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UNITED STATES GOVERNMEN

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FROM

IO - Mr. Sisco

UNP - Elizabeth Ann Brown

UNP - Elizabeth Ann Brown WA

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Under Secretary Carver:

Supplemental

DATE: January 19, 1966

Memorandum

The briefing memorandum we sent you for the conversation with Under Secretary Carver does not deal with one point which I hope we may discuss orally before the meeting this afternoon. However, if we cannot I think it is important for you to be fully aware of the rationale behind our proposal that it would be undesirable to separate out the Trust Territory for special treatment, leaving our other territories untouched.

There are two main points:

1. We could not get by in the UN except at unacceptable political cost with termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, incorporation of the Trust Territory into a lasting relationship with the U.S. and its elevation to the status of a non-self-governing territory. We have binding obligations under the Charter and under the Trusteeship Agreement which do not permit us unilaterally to dispose of the Trust Territory in any way which could be considered inconsistent with the interests of the indigenous population.

2. We cannot give the Trust Territory a status superior to that of our own non-self-governing territories (Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands) both because of the explosive results which would be bound to occur in the territories themselves and because the Congress would be unwilling to accord what would amount to preferential treatment to the Trust Territory.

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REVIEWED BY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LER

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While in one sense we are using the Trust Territory as a kind of lever to obtain action on a bigger package, we should have in mind at all times that our basic and comprehensive objective is to remove all our territories including the TTPI from international scrutiny. This objective can best be achieved by dealing with the territories as a group in such a way as to demonstrate conclusively that the rights of the inhabitants have been safeguarded, that their interests have been promoted and that they have had unrestricted opportunity to make a free choice regarding their political future.

IO:UNP:EABrown/jc

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