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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : IO - Mr. Sisco

DATE: January 25, 1966

FROM : UNP - Elizabeth Ann Brown *huf*

SUBJECT: House Subcommittee on Territorial and Insular Affairs

At this morning's executive session of the Subcommittee, to which Ambassador Anderson was invited to report on her impressions of the Subcommittee trip to the TTPI, Guam and American Samoa, Congressman Wayne Aspinall, Chairman of the full Committee made an opening statement along the following lines:

I would like the members of the Subcommittee to bear in mind as they listen to reports on the trip to the Pacific certain things that have come to my attention. There is uncertainty about the future of the Trust Territory within the U.S. Administration. There seems to be a movement within the U.S. Administration which is thinking about taking the territories away from us. I think we would have something to say about that as regards the three American Territories. I recognize that the TTPI is a special case. We're there because of an agreement with the UN. A change for the TTPI could be done by a simple executive order.

But the Congress and this Committee have been very attentive to the TTPI. We have a right to know what people have in mind. We're entitled to frankness. If there is a movement in the air to change the status of the TTPI administration, then we have a right to know about it. If the Congress has fallen down on the job, let's know about that too. If this is just a rumor blown all out of proportion, we should find that out. We've been diligent in our responsibilities. And we hope Ambassador Anderson and Director Van Cleve will be diligent about reporting to this Committee.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY B.A. BAAS DATE 3/25/87

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Following the hearing, Mr. Aspinall approached Ambassador Anderson with the hope she could speak to his comments tomorrow. If not, he would understand.

Ambassador Anderson replied she hoped to report to the President on her trip and felt constrained not to talk about policy matters until she had first talked with him. She said she was sure the Executive would be consulting with the Congress just as soon as there is anything to consult about. She said she was puzzled by his comments. To this Mr. Aspinall said forcefully that it certainly wasn't just gossip.

IO:UNP:DMorris/jc

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