

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

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 TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____

UKAF: ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

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PA or FOI EXEMPT

Future of the Trust Territory re 1514

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Problem

Past Visiting Missions and Trusteeship Councils have devoted considerable attention to political development in the Trust Territory and repeatedly urged a more rapid pace of advance. In setting forth the terms of reference for the upcoming Visiting Mission the Trusteeship Council directed the Mission to investigate and report as fully as possible on the steps taken in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands towards the realization of the objectives set forth in Article 76B of the Charter of the United Nations, and to pay special attention to the question of the future of the Territory in the light of the relevant Articles of the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement, bearing in mind the provisions of relevant Trusteeship Council and General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960."

We expect this year's mission to concern itself with the political future of the Trust Territory to a greater extent than any previous mission, and its chairman, Miss Angie Brooks of Liberia, cannot be expected to ^{take a strong stand on} ~~comprise on~~ the issue of self-determination. ~~Two member countries of the Mission--the UK and Australia,~~ ^{also,} ~~have~~ ^{with} territories in the Pacific, and are understandably interested in any United States action in the Pacific which might require an adjustment of their own plans.

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Ideally we should be able to inform the Visiting Mission that the United States anticipates that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory will make their decision regarding the future political status within the next five years and that in the meantime the United States is further accelerating the economic, political, and social development of the Territory. Indeed, High Commissioner Norwood stated before the Trusteeship Council in July, 1966 that he hoped the Micronesians would make a decision as to their future during his term of office, which will probably run five years. However, because the Executive has not yet completed its plans for the implementation of NSAM 145, we will not be in a position to give the Mission members any more information on the future of the territory beyond that we presented at the past session of the Trusteeship Council.

Talking Points

1. We should inform the Visiting Mission the United States anticipates that the inhabitants of the Trust Territory will make their decision regarding the future political status of the territory within a "reasonable period of time." We do not view "reasonable period of time" as meaning the distant future. The timing of the Trust Territory's expression of self-determination has not been fixed

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and will be largely determined by the wishes of the people of the Territory as expressed in the Congress of Micronesia and by the success of the Congress of Micronesia in developing a sense of community within the territory and in acting as a governing body for its widely scattered and differing peoples.

2. We should explain to the Mission that while we are much encouraged by the accomplishments of the Congress of Micronesia during its first two sessions, we believe it would be premature to make any definite recommendations regarding the Territory's future status.

3. We will be interested in receiving the formal and informal views of the Visiting Mission, including their assessment of the pace of development, after their return.

4. Should the question of the United States position regarding the applicability of resolution 1514 to the Trust Territory arise, you should make the following points: (a) the United States has explicit legal obligations under our Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations and Article 76 of the Charter for the progressive development of the Trust Territory towards self-government or independence. We continue to regard these obligations as legally binding upon us in our administration of the islands and consider that in general the principles enunciated by the General Assembly in resolution 1514 are consistent with our obligations; (b) the

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provisions of GA Resolution 1541, cited in the terms of reference of the Visiting Mission, state that a Non-Self-Governing Territory can be said to have reached a full measure of self-government by:

- (a) Emergence as a sovereign independent State.
- (b) Free association with an independent State; or
- (c) Integration with an independent State.

Should some member of the Mission ask about the United States position regarding the specific applicability of paragraphs 2 and 5 of resolution 1514 to the Trust Territory, we should restate our basic position. That is, that the United States considers that the essential elements of resolution 1514 (XV) are applicable to the Trust Territory. It fully agrees with the provisions of paragraph 2 of that resolution and is taking steps to stimulate the political development of the Territory in the direction of increased self-government with a view to giving the people of the Territory a free choice with respect to their political future. The policy of the USG regarding the Trust Territory is entirely consistent with the main policy recommendations contained in resolution 1514 (XV). The United States, however, believes that some of the phraseology of that resolution, such as the word "colonialism" and the term "alien subjugation, domination, and exploitation", are completely inappropriate to the situation prevailing in the Trust Territory.

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Background

National Security Action Memorandum 145 set forth as United States policy that the Trust Territory be given a real option at the appropriate time to move into a new and lasting relationship with the United States within our political framework. Although the contents of the NSAM have not been discussed with foreign governments, ^{it will be desirable for us} ~~we will need~~ ^{to have the} the support of Australia, the UK and New Zealand in bringing about changes in the status of our Trust Territory, and they ^{cannot} ^{want} will [need] our support in securing international approval of the changes which they ^{may} [will] be preparing for their territories.

Should the Visiting Mission inquire about the resolution of the Congress of Micronesia calling for a Commission to study the future of the TTPI, we may reply that it is one of many constructive suggestions which we are currently studying.

RT Jones

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