

74D7

BX 5296

CONFIDENTIAL

03
7.6

2167

CONFIDENTIAL

July 12, 1967

R

TO: IO - Mr. Popper

FROM: UNP - William Gleysteen

SUBJECT: Talking Points for your Conversation with
Assistant Secretary McNaughton

BACKGROUND

Interior has drafted a memorandum to the President requesting authorization to transmit to the Congress a joint resolution establishing a commission with substantial congressional participation which would submit recommendations to the President and the Congress on the best means to provide the people of Micronesia with such a degree of self-government that they would be able to freely express their wishes in a plebiscite to be held as soon as possible and not later than June 30, 1972 on the future status of the Trust Territory. State, Defense, and Interior have agreed on the wording of this joint resolution but there is a fundamental difference between the views of State and Interior on the degree of self-government which the Trust Territory must have in order to permit the United States to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement. In its memorandum to the President, Interior suggests to the President that the United States could extend non-self-governing status to the territory, recommends such a course, and asserts their belief that Congress would not accept any other arrangement.

Defense has concurred in the Interior memorandum. State has refused to concur principally because the memorandum fails to take into account our considered judgment that non-self-governing status would be incompatible with our obligations under Article 6 of the 1947 Trusteeship Agreement, and, in fact, implies that the United States could disregard these obligations. Interior will probably send the memorandum to the White House today with a notation that State does not

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY B. H. BAAS DATE 3/21/87

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE

TS. AUTH. REASON(S)

EXDOR: E EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED 05 422011

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-

concur and will be sending a separate memorandum. We are preparing a memorandum to the President outlining our views.

TALKING POINTS

In your telephone conversation with Assistant Secretary McNaughton you may wish to begin by recalling that we have furnished him with a copy of Katzenbach's letter to Under Secretary Luce setting forth State's objections to Interior's memorandum. You might then make the following points:

1. State cannot concur in the proposed memorandum to the President for the reasons set out in Katzenbach's letter to Luce. We believe that if the President were to act on the basis of the Interior memorandum we would run the serious risk of commission recommendations which could not be implemented without violating Trusteeship obligations. Further, if the Commission were to recommend a non-self-governing U.S. territorial status for the TTPI, the State Department would have no alternative but to recommend a Presidential veto on any legislation to implement such a status.
2. We fully appreciate the strategic considerations underlying Defense's desire to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement and to bring about the association of the Trust Territory with the United States. We would like, however, to bring to the attention of Defense our considered opinion that should the commission recommend a non-self-governing status, the Trusteeship Agreement could not be legally terminated and therefore the Trust Territory would remain under the scrutiny of the UN.
3. We are drafting a memorandum to the President outlining our position on this subject, and we will send you a copy. Defense may wish to consider sending a letter to the White House clearly setting forth its basic position of approval of any course of action which will effectively bring about the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and association of the Trust Territory with the United States.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

05 422012