

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

EXCISE

2155

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DATE: March 23, 1967

BIAS

TO : EA - Mr. Berger

FROM : EA/ANZ - Robert S. Lindquist *RL*

SUBJECT: Meeting with Interior, Defense and White House on TTPI

1. The Under Secretary has agreed to meet with Under Secretary of Interior Luce and with representatives from the Department of Defense and the White House next week to discuss the political future of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Micronesia).

2. State's position is that for strategic reasons we must move promptly not only with a program of accelerated economic development but with a political program under which the people of the Territory would exercise their right of self-determination in circumstances which highlight the advantage of the Territory's continued association with us.

3. IO has prepared the text of a concurrent resolution to discuss at the meeting, and if Interior agrees, later with the Interior Committees of the Congress and Congressional leaders. Intended as a specific alternative to Interior's proposed legislation providing for a Congressionally-dominated status Commission, it provides for an expression of the peoples' wishes not later than July 4, 1972 on the future status of the Territory. The concurrent resolution would be passed after delivery of a Presidential message (as yet to be worked out) which would establish a Commission on the Status of the Trust Territory. Composed of 17 members, 8 from the Congress of the United States, 8 appointed by the President and an additional member to be appointed by the President who would serve as Chairman, the Commission would study and assess all factors bearing upon the future of the Trust Territory, consult with representatives of the people of Micronesia and submit recommendations to the Congress and to the President not later than June 30, 1968.

4. IO's memo to the Under Secretary is attached.

Attachment:

Memorandum dated March 23, 1967.

EA/ANZ: *smr* FMcReynolds:jcs

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY	B.H. BAAS DATE 3/25/87
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TS AUTH.	1/78 REASON(S) E.O. 12356
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