To: Mr. McHenry

UNP - William Gleysteen

The Future of the TTPI

    Attached is a summary of our basic policy rationale
on the political future of the Trust Territory as it
appeared at the change in Administrations. Since then
we have learned belatedly--via an appallingly bad report-
ing system--that the political climate in the Territory
is even more disturbing than we had characterized it.
Neiman Craley, who admittedly tends to be a prophet of
doom, is one source of our anxiety but there is ample corrobor-
ating evidence in the activities of the Congress of Micronesia's
Status Commission and the almost incredible resolutions
being passed by various legislatures in the TTPI.

    Unquestionably many--perhaps most--of these sophisti-
cated Micronesians have not set their hearts on such a
radical change of course and are using these concepts to
push us off dead center. In the process, however, they
are running great risks of committing themselves
irretrievably.

    There is an immediate aspect of a generally urgent
problem. In large part as a result of our inability to
get our Congress to establish the US Status Commission,
the Micronesian counterpart has become an unguided missile

moving increasingly in the direction of favoring independence or New Zealand-style Pacific arrangements, involving the loosest form of association. Their final report is due in July 1969 and they do not wish to delay it further or to come to Washington for a dose of official indoctrination. Unbeknownst to the State Department, they asked the High Commissioner in January to give them a local briefing on US Government views and in view of our unpreparedness at that time have given us a reprieve until April or possibly May. If some sort of authoratative interim message cannot be given them by that time we may be in an extraordinarily awkward position.

IO:UNP:WGleysteen:gs

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