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# Department of State TELEGRAM

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 218  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
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AMEMBASSY MANILA

REVIEWED BY	<i>W. J. [Signature]</i>	DATE	FEB. 25 1987
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SUBJECT: MICRONESIAN CONGRESS STATUS COMMISSION

FOLLOWING EXCERPTS ARTICLE FIJI TIMES MARCH 15 BASED INTERVIEW LAZARUS SALII.

SENATOR LAZARUS E. SALII, LEADER OF THE VISITING MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, HAS ATTACKED AMERICA FOR "NEGLECTING" THE TERRITORY. SENATOR SALII SAID: "THE UNITED NATIONS AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. IS THAT THE U.S. WILL DEVELOP THE AREA ECONOMICALLY, POLITICALLY, SOCIALLY AND EDUCATIONALLY UNTIL IT IS READY FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT AND INDEPENDENCE. AFTER 24 YEARS -- SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT -- THE AREA IS NOT ANYWHERE NEAR BEING ECONOMICALLY SUFFICIENT". THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT AMERICA HAD NEGLECTED THE TERRITORY EDUCATIONALLY, AMERICA HAD A GOOD RECORD IN THE TERRITORY, SENATOR SALII SAID, AND THE CREATION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAD BEEN A BIG STEP TOWARDS POLITICAL MATURITY. HE ADDED THAT IT HAD BEEN WORKED OUT THAT ROUGHLY \$130 MILLION IN A YEARS TIME WOULD BE NEEDED TO PUT IN THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH WOULD PROVIDE THE BASE FOR REAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA. "THE TRUST TERRITORY BUDGET HAS INCREASED RAPIDLY FROM \$5,500,000 TEN YEARS AGO TO \$34 MILLION THIS YEAR" SENATOR SALII SAID. "THE CEILING NOW IS \$50 MILLION A YEAR". REFERRING TO MILITARY BASES IN THE AREA, SENATOR SALII SAID THE RESENTMENT OF THE MICRONESIANS WAS NOT ABOUT THE BASES THEMSELVES, BUT AT THE UNLIMITED POWER OF THE U.S. TO TAKE OVER LAND. THIS POWER

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