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6-19-69

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Under Secretary

THROUGH: S/S

FROM: ~~IO - Samuel De Palma~~  
EA - Marshall Green

SUBJECT: Advisory Panel for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands -- ACTION MEMORANDUM

1. As the program for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands develops, beginning late this summer (probably in August) with consultations with the Micronesians, we can expect increased interest on the part of individuals in the US, other governments such as Australia and New Zealand which are geographically concerned, and other members of the UN. Much of this interest will be fueled by the press which has already carried a number of exaggerated and misleading newspaper articles.

2. Also I have received the impression that neither the Department of the Interior nor the Department of Defense is attuned to political nuances within the territory, ~~and I~~ *think it important (example to the effect of) that we try to ensure that the Micronesians feel there is genuine consultation with them.*

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3. An addition to the program which could help the Department in a public relations sense, and perhaps concurrently "educate" Interior and DOD, would be the formation of an Advisory Panel of private experts on Micronesia to meet with Administration officials. In the past the use of such advisory panels for the various geographic areas has been favorably noted by the press, although their discussions generally were not made public. Panelists would also be useful to the USG in developing its program for the TTPI, as specialized sources of detailed information on Micronesia and of advice on how most effectively to deal with the Micronesians.

4. I propose that such a panel be selected soon to meet with Administration officials prior to the meetings with the Micronesians. The panelists would be informed frankly of the Administration's program and would be asked to discuss both the substance of the program and the best methods of dealing with the Micronesians.

Recommendation

That you call Under Secretary Train, suggest the formation of an Advisory Panel to the Under Secretaries Group and

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its working level sub-groups, and ask him for suggestions as to possible members. If Under Secretary Train agrees, he may wish to clear the suggestion with the appropriate Congressional leaders.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Concurrences:

EA/ANZ - Mr. Moore  
IO/UNP - Mr. Gleysteen

EA/ANZ:RRBlackburn:jkb 6/19/69

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