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JUL 1 1969

**Mr. James T. Sablan
Legislative Secretary
Tenth Guam Legislature
P. O. Box 373
Agaña, Guam**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>B. H. BAAS</u>	DATE <u>3/25/87</u>
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Dear Mr. Sablan:

Secretary Rogers has asked me to respond on his behalf to your letter of April 29 enclosing a copy of Resolution No. 186 (2-S) of the Tenth Guam Legislature requesting immediate "political re-integration" of the Marianas Islands.

As your resolution points out, the Marianas Islands District Legislature has passed and submitted to the United Nations a resolution which expresses their desire, comparable to yours, for the unification of the Northern Marianas Islands with Guam. Since this resolution was circulated by the United Nations as a petition to the Trusteeship Council, the United States Government was required to submit written observations on the points raised in this resolution. I am enclosing a copy of these observations which are directly responsive to your resolution.

I might add a comment regarding your resolution's reference to Article 9 of the Trusteeship Agreement. This Article is intended to make possible administrative union or federation with other US territories during the life of the Trusteeship Agreement -- the type of arrangement which Australia has used to establish a unified administration of its territory of Papua with the Trust Territory of New Guinea for which it is the Administering Authority. This arrangement has not altered the political status of New Guinea, which remains a Trust Territory.

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Article 9 is not intended nor can it be used as a means of terminating the Trusteeship Agreement as it relates to the Territory as a whole or to a portion thereof.

The United States believes the most sensible course is to attempt to solve the basic problem of the future of the Trust Territory through an act of self-determination in the reasonably near future. Secretary Nickel proposed the first step in this process during his recent visit to the Territory in calling for a dialogue between selected Micronesian leaders and members of his staff. The objective of this dialogue will be to determine the desires of the Micronesian people and to decide how best to implement them. As stated in the enclosed observations to the United Nations, the views of the inhabitants of the Trust Territory, including the inhabitants of the Marianas, will play a critical role in this process.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel De Palma
Assistant Secretary of State for
International Organization Affairs

Enclosure:

Observations to the United
Nations.

Clearance:

IO:UNP - Mr. Gleysteen
Interior - Mrs. Farrington

HUNA - Mr. Reis

IO:UNP:SRPaals:jkh 5/30/69

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TENTH GUAM LEGISLATURE

P. O. BOX 373
AGANA, TERRITORY OF GUAM
U. S. A.

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April 29, 1969

Honorable William P. Rogers
Secretary of State
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Rogers:

Transmitted herewith is Resolution No. 186(2-S), "Relative to the immediate implementation of the cherished goal of political re-integration of the Marianas Islands pursuant to Articles 73 and 76 of the Charter of the United Nations, and Article 9 of the Trusteeship Agreement", duly and regularly adopted by the Legislature on April 21, 1969.

Sincerely yours,

James T. Sablan
JAMES T. SABLAN
Legislative Secretary

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Enclosure

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