



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

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12/2/69

Memorandum

To: Secretary of the Interior
THROUGH: Under Secretary

From: Assistant Secretary--Public Land Management

Subject: Micronesian Time Problems

The Micronesian Political Status Delegation left Washington on October 17, 1969. At that time, it was agreed that the Secretary of the Interior would present Interior's land position to the Secretaries of State and Defense as soon as possible, this in return for the Delegation's agreement to support permanent association with the U.S. if Interior's land position was accepted.

The matter has been held in abeyance since that time and no further action can be taken unless we accept an alternative and break our commitment to the Delegation.

The Micronesian Congress meets January 12, 1970, and it seems necessary to have a further discussion with the Delegation prior to such session. We are receiving criticism from State, Defense, and the White House for the delay. We understand from the other agencies that their Secretaries' position (and that of Dr. Kissinger) will be adverse to the Interior proposal.

I cannot recommend too strongly that your meeting take place at the earliest possible moment which is now, I am advised, approximately December 12th. I am informed that Secretary Roger's calendar is tentatively open on the 15th at 4:30 and at either 11 or 12 o'clock on the 16th.

(Sgd.) Harrison Loesch

Harrison Loesch

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