



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520

12-11-69

SECRET

TO : The Secretary

THROUGH: S/S

FROM : L - John R. Stevenson

SUBJECT: Legal Bases for Termination of the Trusteeship
Agreement - Talking Points for Your Meeting of
December 16 on the Trust Territory's Future -

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

Leave

I. The Trusteeship Agreement. Entered into force on July 18, 1947 between the U.N. Security Council and the United States after being approved by joint resolution of Congress.

A. Basic Political Objectives. In accordance with the express language of Article 76 of the U.N. Charter, the Agreement provides that the United States shall:

"promote the development of the inhabitants of the trust territory towards self-government or independence, as may be appropriate to the trust territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned;"

B. Self-Government. Since it has been decided not to grant independence to Micronesia, we must provide self-government to fulfill the objectives of the Agreement. Although "self-government" is not a precisely defined concept, the United States has agreed with certain relevant factors endorsed by the General Assembly. These include:

1. Universal suffrage and free periodic elections.
2. An identical degree of self-government for all inhabitants and local bodies of all parts of a federal system.

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~~E~~ 3. Appointment or election of local officials
on the same basis as in other parts of the country.

In a case which will be considered relevant even though not a trusteeship the U.N. General Assembly found that Puerto Rico had attained a full measure of self-government on the basis of a constitution providing for both governor and legislature to be elected by the people. Accordingly an appointed rather than an elected executive would make it virtually impossible to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement on the theory that Micronesia has achieved self-government.

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cc: IO - Mr. De Palma

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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12-15-69

TO : The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM : L - John R. Stevenson
SUBJECT: Legal Basis for Termination of Trusteeship Agreement - Talking Points for Your Meeting on December 16 on the Trust Territory's Future

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY B.H. BAAS DATE 5/15/66
CLASSIFICATION EXTENDED

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TS AUTH. J. BAKER REASON(S) CDC MEMO

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS 5/3/63
BLOCK SIZE/ECN RELEASEABLE

RELEASE DRAFT TO PART BAAS
EXPLANATION FOR EXEMPTIONS

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

I. The Trusteeship Agreement. Entered into force on July 18, 1947 between the U.N. Security Council and the United States after being approved by joint resolution of Congress.

A. Basic Political Objectives. In accordance with Article 76 of the U.N. Charter (and in virtually identical language), the Agreement provides that the United States shall:

"promote the development of the inhabitants of the trust territory towards self-government or independence, as may be appropriate to the trust territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned;"

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B. Self-Government. Since it has been decided not to grant independence to Micronesia, we must provide self-government before the objectives of the Agreement can be said to have been fully achieved. Although "self-government" is not a precisely defined concept, the United States has agreed with certain relevant factors endorsed by the General Assembly in 1953 (Resolution 742). These include:

1. Universal suffrage and free periodic elections.
2. An identical degree of self-government for the inhabitants of each local administrative unit of a federal system.

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3. Appointment or election of local officials
on the same basis as in other parts of the country.

In a case which will be considered relevant even though not a trusteeship, the U.S. General Assembly found that Puerto Rico had afforded a full measure of self-government on the basis of a constitution providing for both governor and legislature to be elected by the people. Accordingly an appointed rather than an elected executive would make it extremely difficult to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement on the theory that Micronesia has achieved self-government.

- On the other hand such a step could be considered consistent with our obligation to promote progress towards self-government during the trusteeship.

C. Termination

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