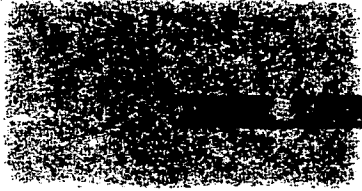


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**TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (TIPI)**

The TIPI (Micronesia) is a strategic trust under the Security Council of the United Nations that is administered by the United States. Administration and development of the territory are closely monitored by the United Nations, and the territory is being prepared by the U. S. for a form of self-determination.

Construction of bases in the Territory is permitted under the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement, but it probably will not be politically practicable to build any new major military facilities until the permanent status of the Territory is settled.

Because of the great strategic importance of the Territory, the United States seeks a permanent relationship with the Trust Territory such that U. S. control will not be subject to challenge either by the residents of the Territory, by other island territories and the United Nations. Under the arrangement it seeks, the U. S. proposes to:

- a. Retain the right to take land for military purposes on the same basis that it may do so within states or territories of the United States;

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MA


REVIEWED BY B.H. BASS DATE 3/25/87

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 U. S. internal security and immigration laws; and

c. Maintain control over relations with and access by foreign states.

Achievement of these objectives will depend on ticklish, prolonged discussions on the future of the TTPI now in progress between the USG and representatives of the Congress of Micronesia. The first meeting was held in October 1969. The two delegations will meet in May 1970. The U. S. Delegation to this meeting will, on behalf of the executive branch, offer to introduce into the U. S. Congress a resolution that would authorize the Micronesians to draft for themselves a constitution (following carefully prescribed parameters to be written into the U. S. Congressional Resolution). This  would give the Trust Territory (or Micronesia,  called) the status of "commonwealth", such as that achieved by Puerto Rico. On the matter of land, under the proposed constitution all public lands now held or controlled by the Trust Territory Government would be turned over to the Government of Micronesia. Provision

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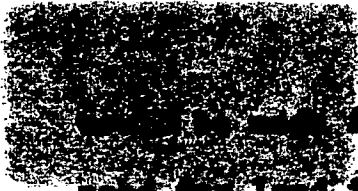
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 for the U. S. Government to review the need for land it now holds under agreement with the Trust Territory Government and to enter into new agreements for those lands considered necessary for public purposes.

There is, at this time, no time-table for the settlement of the permanent status of the TTPI. If the USC offer outlined in the paragraph above is accepted by the Micronesians (and sanctioned by the Congress ) it is conceivable that the permanent status could be realized within a couple of years. A more precise estimate can be made after the May meeting.

  
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