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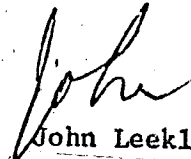
May 22, 1970

Mr. Tom Whittington  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
for Land Management  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tom:

Please pardon our delay. Enclosed please find a copy of our transcript of the minutes for May 8 along with a copy of the tape recording made of the meeting.

Best regards,

  
John Leekley

01-02066

MINUTES OF MEETING

U. S. DELEGATION/MICRONESIAN DELEGATION

May 8, 1970 - 3 p.m.

SALII: To start off, Mr. Secretary, we might discuss a little bit on the question you transmitted to us - what procedures for terminating unilaterally terminable relationship.

LOESCH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We would like to hear discussion. We notice in your statement on page 2 of the May 7 statement and we would be interested in hearing about that.

SALII: Some of the things we had in mind go along these lines. In this we have to take from the British experience with some of our former territories. From the former territory's side from the date of introduction of bill to the legislature for considering termination. Something like 90 days has to elapse before the second hearing is held on any measure calling for termination. Then a two-third vote of the legislature is required, then finally a plebiscite. This is a matter of great significance so the procedure for terminating - it has to be prolonged in some respects to give adequate considerations both by the former territory itself and the former Administering Authority. And then in the plebiscite, a two-third majority might be considered also as in the case in the legislature. Now, from the other side, the British have their own choice. I think they said that they will give 6 months advance notice. Then perhaps a conference between the two areas to discuss differences to the idea of considering termination would take place. Then we don't know what the procedures will be in the case of the United States but as far as what we think might be an appropriate procedure, we might devise something else along this line. Something like a majority vote in the legislature as well as the

SALII: With your permission, Mr. Secretary, if there are no objections from your group, I like to read a statement.

Chairman Salii read the "Statement from the Micronesian Delegation" dated May 8, 1970. (Copies were distributed to the U. S. delegation).

LOESCH: I do think that we want to comment on one item in this statement and with your permission I like to ask Mr. Ruser to make that comment.

RUSER: Mr. Chairman, I believe the second paragraph of your statement refers to the four-point procedure which is part of the U. S. proposals and in clarifying this, I would like to really point out the following: this four-point procedure which is contained in our statement, of course, is a procedure which is part of the whole proposal. We do not want to leave here on the record that these four steps would necessarily be part of any further U. S. proposals, if the people of Micronesia should find that we do not wish to entertain proposals made by the United States for a self-governing commonwealth in association with the United States. In this sense, I believe your second paragraph is perhaps somewhat less qualified than it should be in order to avoid future misunderstandings on this. We just want to point this out for the record. Four steps are specific to the present United States proposals and if it should be necessary to modify these proposals substantially, of course, the four steps would have been examined in the light of all the facts and considerations at the time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SALII: Any question to the statement made by Mr. Ruser? (No answer)

LOESCH: If there are none, Mr. Chairman, so far as the record of these proceedings is concerned, I have only to add that we have been very grateful for the hospitality that we have had in your hands, to the visit to your beautiful island. We appreciate the talks and like you, we feel that our understanding has been greatly enlarged by the talks and papers that we have had this week; by the visits and conversations that we have with your members.

Thank you very much.

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SALII: We do have a one-page final formal statement to give.

LOESCH: So do I - a very short one besides the one in response to yesterday's. We have a very few closing remarks of which, if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, at some point we have this little final statement to read.

Another housekeeping item in effect, we have prepared a record transcript as far as we have received the transcript, which we would like to have substituted for the initial draft that was typed up. There were a number of typographical errors.

SALII: Is this still your plan to have Mr. Ruser go over the transcript with Senator Palacios?

LOESCH: We didn't in this instance. I really thought that there might have been a possible misunderstanding between the question of correction of the minutes or the record and the joint question of a joint minute which I had raised this morning in which we decided not to do. Now, I have no objection, however, to have Senator Palacios or anyone else check over the corrected version in close accord with the tape. My diction is not excellent I am sure because then in certain case I myself slurred my words a little and they didn't come out quite right in the transcript. But aside from that, it's just the same. So, do you want me to proceed?

Secretary Loesch read the "Closing Remarks by the U. S. Delegation".

(Copies were distributed to each member of the Micronesian delegation)

That concludes our final statement.

plebiscite itself, adequate notice to the other side of intention to consider termination. Perhaps giving the reasons why termination is being considered.

LOESCH: I understand that, Mr. Chairman, that it is some process of the nature used by the British in connection with its former West Indies areas that you would contemplate in this connection.

SALII: Something along these lines will be used. We don't know too much about the case in Puerto Rico but we understand there might be some provision there, although we do not know. From time to time they call a plebiscite which include statehood and independence. We don't know whether we can do unilaterally or whether they will require concurrence by the United States Congress.

LOESCH: We mentioned that I think in the paper we are going to take place in the record today. The Federal Relations Act is cited on this. Do any of my delegation have any further question on this subject? (No answer). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SALII: Now, I think we are coming close to the end of this talk, so there might be things we want to discuss. First is, if we can get agreement between the two delegations on a joint press release.

LOESCH: Before we discuss that, if I might request, I think we perhaps should conclude the substantive portions of our talks and complete the record. Consequently, at this point I would like to place in the record a statement by the U. S. delegation in response to the second statement of Micronesian delegation, dated May 7, which we spoke to extemporaneously yesterday but we now prepared a short written statement which I think I would prefer rather than reading, to just place in the record and of course similarly if the Micronesian delegation have any further papers for the record, I think it would be well to get the record completed. In other words, before we go to our.....

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