

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY [Signature] DATE FEB. 25 1987

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September 14, 1970

Honorable J. W. Fulbright
Chairman, Committee on
Foreign Relations
United States Senate

FOI RB/AN-01
Original (with courtesy
copy of the correspondence
was signed, dated & dispatched
direct from "R".

Dear Mr. Chairman:

POL 19 PAC TT

The Secretary has asked me to reply to your letter of August 24 concerning our discussions with the Future Political Status Delegation of the Congress of Micronesia.

We fully share your concern that the United States be in a sound and defensible position when the time comes to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement. We are mindful that, although the agreement can only be terminated with our concurrence, we are obligated to move the Trust Territory toward "self-government or independence," as appropriate to circumstances in the Territory and acceptable to the Micronesians. Our discussions to date with the delegation from the Congress of Micronesia have been directed toward a future political status which would accomplish this end and protect US interests in the area.

POL 19 PAC TT

You are probably aware that the Congress of Micronesia has responded in distinctly negative fashion to our recent proposals. We are now engaged in a restudy of our position to see what can be done to move toward a settlement acceptable to both sides. You may be assured that we are keeping in mind the importance of having Micronesian support for a future political status on which we would base the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. We have previously informed the Trusteeship Council that the final political status of Micronesia would have to be approved by the

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electorate and we have assured the Council that we would expect United Nations observers to be present at that time.

If I may be of any further assistance to you on this matter, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

GW/CSP ^{9/10} JWA

David N. Abshire
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Clearances:

- IO/UNP - Mr. Armitage ^{JWA}
- L/UNA - Mr. Doud (substance) ^{JWA}
- Interior - Mr. Whittington ^{JWA}
- DOD - Cdr. Kuhn ^{JWA}
- IO - Mr. Herz ^{JWA}
- H - C. WINSOR ^{JWA}

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