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4 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Subject: NSC Under Secretaries Committee Meeting
on Political Status Negotiations with
Micronesia, 1600-1800, 3 December 1970

1. The following individuals attended:

a. Principals for this meeting:

Mr. John Irwin II, Under Secretary of State
(Chairman)
Mr. Armistead E. Selden, Jr., Principal Deputy
Asst Secretary (USA), OSD
Mr. Peter Jessup, Special Group Officer, CIA
Wdm J. P. Weinel, Director Plans and Policy, JCS
Mr. Herbert Levin, Staff Member, NSC
Mr. Fred J. Russell, Acting Secretary of the
Interior
Mr. Richard D. Kleinlienst, Deputy Atty General,
Dept of Justice
Mr. Henry Lockis, Deputy Director, USIA
Mr. Russell Train, Chairman of the Council of
Environmental Quality

b. Other Attendees:

Mr. U. Alexis Johnson, Under Secretary for
Political Affairs, State Dept
Mr. Samuel DePalma, Asst Secretary, Bureau of
International Affairs, State Dept
Mr. Harrison Loesch, Assistant Secretary Interior
Mr. Claus W. Raser, Staff Member USC, State Dept
Wdm Wm. R. Flanagan, USN, Director East Asian
and Pacific Region, OSD
Cdr Edwin Kuhn, USN, EA/Pacific Region, OSD
Wdm Foster L. Smith, USAF, Chief, Far East
Division, J-5, JCS
Wdm A. K. Smith, USA, Far East Division J-5, JCS

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Mr. Irwin, Chairman of the USC, presided over the meeting. The Committee commenced its discussion with a report from among the four members of the Inter-agency Group memorandum.

3. However, initial discussion centered on a proposal by Acting Secretary of the Interior Russell for a "new" approach. The proposal was verbally submitted, admittedly broad, and essentially only a concept. It encompassed: (a) recognizing that US interests in the TTPI are essentially military in nature (b) establishing a fixed annual funding program (currently about \$60 million) which would be payment for a continuing option to use specified lands for US military purposes (c) terminating all other US programs within the TTPI, essentially to make Micronesia self-governing (d) offering the TTPI complete self-determination either on the basis of a territorial entity or of individual district selection by means of a plebiscite and (e) denial of foreign military activity, force, or bases within the TTPI and its contiguous seas. Secretary Russell agreed to develop this option for subsequent submission to the Inter-agency Group for consideration. Both Secretary Russell and Mr. Kleindienst stated we have the option to continue US trusteeship by VETO in the UN Security Council, if necessary.

4. The Chairman next requested a discussion of Option 3, stating that this option was not desirable specifically because it projected an appearance of the United States using "divide and conquer" tactics to gain our (colonialistic) objectives, thereby giving the United States a black eye. At this point in the meeting, Secretary (Chairman) Irwin had to depart. Subsequently, discussion turned to economic, political, and social issues related to Micronesia. Considerable discussion was devoted to these subjects:

a. Possible similarities between the Micronesian situation and the Guantanamo situation in Cuba (consensus indicated there was very little).

b. Micronesian culture, politics, and political development and attitudes.

c. Military and political relationships (no clear dividing line was drawn between the two).

d. Effect of the passage of time on the political and social attitudes of the Micronesians (apparent consensus indicated that political pressure in Micronesia for a settlement is rapidly increasing).

e. Discussion then addressed the options, current presidential guidance, and US Congressional interests. An apparent consensus was reached on the following points.