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TO : Department of State (IO/UNP, EA/ANZ, S/PC)
 Dept. Pass To: Interior Dept. for Asst. Secretary Loesch and Office of Territories
 Defense Dept. for OSD/ISA
 White House for Mr. Levin (NSC)

FROM : HICOMTERPACIS POLAD SAIPAN DATE: April 21, 1971
 SUBJECT : TTPI - Proposed Establishment of an Executive Council
 REF : HICOMTERPACIS telegram 210500Z April 71

- The referenced telegram reported further developments with respect to the proposal to establish an "executive council" to replace the present TTPI Cabinet.
- The following enclosures were referred to in that telegram.
 - Statement on the Executive Branch's position on the proposal for an executive council, given before the Congress of Micronesia's Senate Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations by the Director, Public Affairs on April 19, 1971.
 - Executive Branch's proposal for an alternative "Joint Advisory Council" - Enclosure two. The proposal was submitted as a draft Senate Joint Resolution.
- Also enclosed (enclosure three) is the text of the suggestion for an executive council as originally made in the Report of the Political Status Delegation to the Congress of Micronesia of last July. The present proposal is based on that earlier suggestion.

DORRANCE
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
 REVIEWED by: TBB DATE 6/20/88
 Enclosures: Three, as stated above
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 OADR
 Drafting Date: 4/21/71
 Phone No.: _____
 POLAD: JCDorrance

IO. 17
RS/R

A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

03:45:03

Providing for the establishment of a Joint Advisory Council to discuss and review with the High Commissioner matters relating to the governing of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Fourth Congress of Micronesia, Fourth Special Session, 1971, the House of Representatives concurring, that there is hereby created a Joint Advisory Council of the Congress of Micronesia, hereinafter referred to in this Resolution as the Council, consisting of not more than six (6) members of the Congress of Micronesia to be appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Council shall remain in existence until dissolved by the Congress of Micronesia. Members shall serve for such terms as the presiding officers may prescribe, and the presiding officers shall make appointments to fill any vacancy which may occur on the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the Council shall be to discuss and review with the High Commissioner matters relating to the governing of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council shall consist of not more than six (6) members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the High Commissioner meet with the Council monthly to review and discuss matters relative to the administration of the Trust Territory; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the High Commissioner is hereby requested to favorably consider the creation of this Joint Advisory Council; meet with them on a monthly basis and more often if need be; and willingly consider their recommendations and/or comments regarding the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Joint Resolution be transmitted to the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory and to the Secretary of the Interior.

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community... Micronesians would be well advised to give more thought to simplification as well as decentralization of their system of government. It is obvious to any observer that one of Micronesia's greatest problems is to try to weld together the scattered and diverse populations which constitute the Trust Territory. One must ask whether any system of government dedicated to a separation of governmental power, itself predicated on the existence in a society of important groups contending for power, is really the best framework in which such a society as Micronesia's should be obliged to make its major political and economic decisions."

~~The transitional changes which the Congress of Micronesia should consider, and upon which it might want to take action immediately, fall into two general categories: those relating to the central or territorial level, and those relating to the district level.~~

Territorial Level

1. Executive Council. At the territorial level, the most important change the Congress should consider is the creation of an Executive Council. The Executive Council would consist of the High Commissioner (as Chairman or President), members of the Congress of Micronesia, and senior officers of the Administration. Preferably, the representatives of the Congress of Micronesia would compose at least fifty percent of the voting membership. The function of the Executive Council would be to exercise final decision-making power in the executive branch of the Trust Territory Government.

Insofar as the Council became a forum for the initial formulation of policy, it would enable Micronesian representatives to fill a constructive role in the work of the executive branch. The functions

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envisaged for the Executive Council could not be fulfilled by a body wholly composed of civil servants. Even if some of these were Micronesians, their obligations as civil servants would prevent them from adequately representing the people of Micronesia.

2. Approval of Appointments. Another transitional change which might be considered at the territorial level is to give the Congress of Micronesia the power of advice and consent in the appointment of the next High Commissioner, and over appointments to all other key positions in the Trust Territory Administration. The latter was recommended by the Committee on Government Organization of the Congress of Micronesia in its report last July, but to date no action has been taken in this regard.

3. Legislative Control of Budget. Another transitional change might be for the United States Congress to immediately match the amount of locally-generated revenues collected by the Congress of Micronesia, and to allow appropriation of such amount by the Congress of Micronesia. This is included in the United States offer of Commonwealth status, but the Congress of Micronesia might consider recommending its implementation at this time, since the present involvement of the Congress of Micronesia in the apportionment of United States Grant Funds is purely advisory. In addition, the United States should immediately enter into discussions with the Congress of Micronesia to develop a plan for turning control for the entire Trust Territory budget over to the Congress of Micronesia as soon as possible.

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