



Department of State

EXCISE 577
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TELEGRAM

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ACTION 10-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 PM-04 INR-08 PC-04 SAL-02 RSR-01 RSC-01

L-04 H-01 P-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 SS-10 /063 W

R 180235Z MAY 71
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN
TO SECINTERIOR
INFO SECSTATE
SECDEFENSE
WHITE HOUSE
USUN NEW YORK
CINCPAC
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <i>Haef</i>	DATE FEB. 25 1987
RDSEXT. DATE	
TS AUTH.	REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS	<input type="checkbox"/>
DECLASSIFIED X RELEASABLE X	IN PART
RELEASE DENIED	
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Sanpan Hicom
5/18/71

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FROM HICOMTERPACIS POLAD. (TRUK). INTERIOR FOR ASST. SECRETARY
LOESCH AND OFFICE OF TERRITORIES. STATE FOR IO/UNP, EA/ANZ, S/PC.
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA. WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. LEVIN (INSC). CINCPAC
FOR POLAD.

SUBJECT: CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE POLITICAL STATUS QUESTION
REF: (A) DISTAD TRUCK 140504Z MAY 71
(B) SAIPAN AIRGRAM A-17, MAY 15, 1971
1. REFTEL/REPORTED INTRODUCTION MAY 13, BY HANS WILIANDER
(TRUK), OF H.J.R. 47 WHICH PROVIDES FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS

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COMMITTEE BE DIRECTED NEGOTIATE A "POLITICAL STATUS OF INDEPE-
DENCE" FOR MICRONESIA. RESOLUTION FORWARDED UNDERCOVER REPAIRGRAM
(B). NINE OTHER MEMBERS HOUSE, INCLUDING ALL HOUSE MEMBERS FROM
TRUK, SIGNED RESOLUTION. REFTEL (A) NOTED CO-INTRODUCTION OR
SIGNING THIS, OR ANY OTHER RESOLUTION, DOES NOT NECESSARILY
SIGNIFY ENDORSEMENT CONTENT. WHILE THIS MAY SOUND SOMEWHAT
WHIMSICAL, FACT IS MICRONESIAN REPS AND SENATORS FREQUENTLY TAKE
SUCH ACTION SIMPLY AS SIGN OF HAVING NO OPPOSITION TO DEBATE OF
ISSUES IN BILL OR RESOLUTION, OR ONLY TO EXTEND A COURTESY TO THE
PRIMARY SPONSOR

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2. SEVERAL SPEECHES ON STATUS QUESTION HAVE BEEN REPORTED DURING PAST WEEK OR SO. PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF STATUS QUESTION SPEECHIFYING TO DATE IS THAT ALL OF IT HAS BEEN BY POLITICAL LIGHTWEIGHTS IN CONGRESS. KEY MEMBERS HAVE KEPT QUIET, ALTHOUGH SOME UNDOUBTEDLY WILL CHIRP UP DURING COURSE REMAINING WEEK THIS SESSION. SENATOR SALII IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO TAKE FLOOR

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IN RESPONSE SNIPING DIRECTED AT HIM BY TURKESE AND SOME OTHERS.

3. SEVERAL REPORTS HAVE BEEN SENT IN ON "INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT" BASED ON TRUKESE DELEGATION. STRENGTH THAT MOVEMENT REMAINS UNCERTAIN, BUT THERE ARE SIGNS THAT EVEN WITHIN TRUKESE DELEGATION THERE IS LESS THAN COMPLETE UNITY. ALTHOUGH REPRESENTATIVE SETIK (TRUK) HAS GONE ALONG WITH STATEMENTS TO EFFECT HE BELONGS TO MOVEMENT, AND WAS ONE OF SIGNERS OF WILIANDER'S "INDEPENDENCE RESOLUTION," HE HAS LITTLE REAL SYMPATHY FOR COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE, AND WILL NOT GO ALONG WITH ANY MOVES AIMED AT TAKING TRUK BACK TO A "COCONUT ECONOMY." HE HAS SAID THIS TO ME AND OTHERS DURING PAST SEVERAL DAYS.

4. OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE IN TRUK IS POSITION OF TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP ON ABOVE. REPRESENTATIVES WILIANDER AND HARUO, AND SENATORS AMARAICH AND NAKAYAMA (ALL WHO STRONGLY ADVOCATE INDEPENDENCE) CLAIM THAT THEY HAVE THE POWERFUL CHIEF PETRUS BEHIND THEM, AND ALSO SPEAKER OF TRUK DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, HERMES KATSURA, WHO IS GENERALLY ACCEPTED AS MOST LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO ELDERLY AND AILING PETRUS. DR. THOMAS GLADWIN (MAOIST-ORIENTED ADVISOR TO TRUKESE DELEGATION) CLAIMS THE SAME, BUT BELIEVES INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT HAS LITTLE SUPPORT, OR

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INTEREST IN IT, OUTSIDE TRUK DISTRICT CENTER, AND NOT EVEN A MAJORITY THERE. GLADWIN POINTS OUT REAL TEST OF STRENGTH OF INDEPENDENCE SENTIMENT MAY COME IN SEVERAL WEEKS WHEN TRUK DISTRICT LEGISLATURE MEETS. TRUKESE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION MAY ATTEMPT OBTAIN POSITIVE ENDORSEMENT BY LEGISLATURE OF INDEPEN.

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DENCE POSITION.

5. ALL CONTACTS I HAVE HAD WITH TRUKESSE AT VARIOUS LEVELS WOULD INDICATE GLADWIN CORRECT IN ASSERTING INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT HAS SOMETHING LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC INTEREST OR WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR IT. FURTHER, TRUK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR BELIEVES PETRUS AND KATSURA WOULD NOT GIVE UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT TO INDEPENDENCE POSITION OR ADVOCATES. HE POINTS OUT TRUKESSE BADLY WANT MICRONESIA'S PERMANENT CAPITAL TO BE LOCATED IN TRUK, AND ARE NOT ABOUT TO JEOPARDIZE TERRITORIAL UNITY AND TERRITORIAL CAPITAL IN FAVOR INDEPENDENCE. IN MY OPINION SOME TRADITIONAL LEADERS MAY BE PLAYING A DOUBLE GAME, AND TRUKESSE FAVORING INDEPENDENCE IN CONGRESS ULTIMATELY WILL GO ALONG WITH OTHER DISTRICTS WITH RESPECT STATUS SETTLEMENT, BUT WILL HOLD OUT NEARLY TO END AS BARGAINING TACTIC IN EFFORT OBTAIN AS MANY CONCESSIONS AS POSSIBLE, NOT ONLY FROM U.S., BUT ALSO OTHER DISTRICTS. RESULT MAY OF COURSE BE A

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STIFFENING OF POSITIONS OF REPS OF OTHER DISTRICTS.

7. AS A FINAL NOTE, INDEPENDENCE MEANS MANY THINGS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE HERE. FOR WILIANDER AND SOME OTHERS, IT MEANS TOTAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. FOR OTHERS, IT CAN MEAN A LOOSE FORM OF FREE ASSOCIATION. EVEN IN WILIANDER'S CASE, THE VITAL INGREDIENTS OF STATUS ARE TRUKESSE CONTROL OF TRUKESSE LANDS AND RESOURCES, AND NO MILITARY BASES IN TRUK. HE CLAIMS THAT HE COULD, IF NECESSARY, ACCEPT SOMETHING SHORT OF INDEPENDENCE IF THESE CONDITIONS WERE MET. HE CLAIMS THAT HE HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN OTHER DISTRICTS, "IF THAT IS WHAT THEY WANT." HE ALSO EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF A UNILATERAL TERMINATION POLICY

ICYS

LIZGI#FOR ARRANGEMENT" WITH THE U.S.

8. MESSAGE PREPARED MAY 15. DORRANCE

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NOTE BY OC/T: (#) AS RECEIVED.

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