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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

10 FEB 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS, OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN
STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

SUBJECT: Micronesian Status Negotiations

Reference is made to your memorandum of 26 January 1972 relating to the deployment or storage of bacteriological or chemical weapons on Micronesian soil.

In that memorandum, you pointed out that the Micronesians closed the last session of status talks with a statement insisting on their concurrence in the storage of dangerous materials on Micronesian soil. As a result, you have proposed a possible compromise course of action in your future negotiations with the Micronesians. Your proposal would offer them assurances that the United States will not deploy or store bacteriological or chemical weapons on Micronesian soil.

In general, the Department of Defense concurs with the intent of the basic proposal. It is suggested, however, the same negotiating benefits can be derived by using the following approach:

- (a) A statement could be made that the United States has renounced the use of biological weapons of any and all types, including the use of toxins, whether their origin be chemical or biological. Further, the United States is destroying its entire stock of such agents. Thus, unequivocal assurances could be made that no biological agents will be stored in Micronesia.
- (b) Anticipating separate negotiations with the Marianas, they should be dealt with as a separate matter. It is not desirable to have any limitations with respect to Tinian.
- (c) A statement could be made to the others that the United States has no foreseeable requirement to store lethal chemical agents (weapons) in their districts. In the unlikely event an unforeseen future need should arise, they may be given our firm assurances that the United States would not introduce such agents for storage in their districts without prior consultation.

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Sec Def Cont Nr. X-0575

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The foregoing would merely allow for unpredictable future contingency requirements. The distinction is also made regarding lethal vice standard riot control agents.

As modified above, the Department of Defense concurs with your proposal.



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