



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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19 ACTION INT-06

INFO OCT-01 10-12 SS-14 EA-11 P-03 PRS-01 NSC-10 INR-06

L-03 H-02 RSR-01 RSC-01 PM-06 /077 W

R 182250Z FEB 72
FM DISTAD PALAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO COMTWELVE SAN FRAN CALI
SECDEFENSE WASHDC
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI
HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

REVIEWED BY DATE FEB. 25

RDS OF XDS EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS OF DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS

DEPARTMENT/OF STATE OR/COU MAR

UNCLAS
PASS TO DEPT. INTERIOR FOR OSN AND DASTA
FROM POLAD 65. STATE FOR ID/UNP AND S/PC. COMTWELVE FOR
AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS. DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA AND JCS. WHITE HOUSE
FOR MR. HOLDRIDGE (NSC). CINCPAC FOR POLAD.
SUBJECT: TTPI-CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ON ELECTED DISTADS

1. EARLIER MESSAGES REPORTED INTRODUCTION IN HOUSE AND SENATE OF IDENTICAL RILLS PROVIDING FOR FLECTIVE DISTADS WHO WOULD, HOWEVER, REMAIN RESPONSIBLE TO HICOM AS ARE PRESENT APPOINTED DISTADS.

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2. FEBRUARY 17 HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTED TO HOUSE ON H.B. 154 AND RECOMMENDED AGAINST ADOPTION ELECTED DISTAD LEGISLATION AT THIS TIME OWING (A) FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS IMPLICATIONS OF MEASURE, AND (B) ABSENCE OF CHARTERED DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS AND FACT THAT PRESENT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIONS ARE NO MORE THAN SURDIVISIONS OF TTPI HEAD. QUAPTERS WOULD PLACE ELECTED DISTADS IN UNTENABLE POSITION OF HAVING TO BE RESPONSIBLE TO HICOM AND ELECTORATE AT SAME TIME.

3. HOWEVER, COMMITTEE REPORTS STILL PROVIDES STRONG
SUPPORT TO PRINCIPLE OF ELECTED DISTRICT EXECUTIVE AND THEREFORE -QUITE LOGICALLY IN MY VIEW) PROPOSES CONGRESS AS FIRST STEP

(1)





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IN THAT DIRECTION TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES TO CALL CHARTER (CONSTITUTIONAL) CONVENTIONS FOR PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING NECESSARY FRAMEWORK FOR ELECTIVE DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS.

4. ABOVE HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION PROBABLY ASSURES DEATH IN CUPRENT SESSION OF ELECTIVE DISTAD RILLS IN THEIR PRESENT FORM. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE EARLY FOLLOWUP ON RECOMMENDATION CITED PARA THREE ABOVE. H.B. 225 INTRODUCED II HOUSE BY REP. WILLIANDER (TRUK) SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES FOR DISTRICT

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LEGISLATURES TO CALL CHARTER CONVENTIONS TOLDRAFT DISTRICT
CHARTERS (CONSTITUTIONS) WHICH WOULD HAVE TO (A) GIVE
RECOGNITION TO SEPARATION OF POWERS CONCEPT: (C) BE
CONSISTENT WITH UN CHARTER, TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT, PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND SECRETARIAL ORDERS: AND (C)
GUARANTEE A "REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT."
CHARTERS WOULD THEN BE TRANSMITTED TO CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR
CONSIDERATION AND THAT BODY WOULD HAVE RIGHT TO "AMEND OR
MODIFY" CHARTER IN ANY WAY PRIOR TO ITS BECOMING EFFECTIVE.

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