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ACTION INT-06

INFO OCT-01 10-12 SS-14 EA-11 PM-06 INR-06 L-03 H-02 P-03

PRS-01 SA-03 RSR-01 /069

R 280704Z FEB 72
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN
TO SECSTATE
INFO COMTWELVE SAN FRAN CALIF
SECDEFENSE
WHITE HOUSE
CINCPAC
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/C/O

REVIEWED BY W. J. Bell DATE FEB. 25 1972

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE _____

TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

Jaipani
2-28-72

C O N F I D E N T I A L

PASS TO DEPT. INTERIOR FOR OSN AND DASTA
FROM POLAD 87C. STATE FOR IO/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 -- FUTURE STATUS AND MISC.
OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

1. INDEPENDENCE COALITION. BY TIME THIS REPORT RECEIVED IT IS
PROBABLE INDEPENDENCE COALITION WILL HAVE MADE ITS POSITION
STATEMENT IN HOUSE AND POSSIBLY IN SENATE (WILIANDER TRYING

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GET SENATOR TMETUHL MAKE IDENTICAL STATEMENT IN SENATE). RFP.
WILIANDER (COALITION SPOKESMAN) TOLD ME TODAY THAT LONG DELAY
OCCASIONED BY FACT HE IS TIRED OF "LIP SERVICE" BEING GIVEN TO
COALITION BY ITS MEMBERSHIP AND HAS BEEN POSTPONING STATEMENT
UNTIL HE CAN OBTAIN SIGNATURES OF ALL MEMBERS ON STATEMENT IN
ORDER BIND THEM TO CONTENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE NOW CLAIMS
FOURTEEN MEMBERS, BUT ADMITS TO UNCERTAINTY WHETHER ALL OR EVEN MOST
WILL SIGN ANY STATEMENT.

2. MARSHALLESE SEPARATISM. EARLIER REPORTS INDICATED MARSHALLESE
UNHAPPINESS OVER CONGRESSIONAL INACTION ON PENDING TAX LEGISLATION
WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR FIFTY PERCENT REBATE TO DISTRICTS OF
INCOME TAXES. MEASURE IN QUESTION HAS BECOME ONE OF MOST

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CONTROVERSIAL (MAINLY BEHIND SCENES) IN CONGRESS, BUT ACTION CONTINUES TO BE DEFERRED, MAINLY OWING ACTIONS OF PONAPEAN AND TRUKES DELEGATIONS. SENATE PRESIDENT KABUA AND OTHER MARSHALLESE MEMBERS CONTINUE WARN ME IN VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS THAT THIS IS CRUNCH ISSUE AND COULD LEAD TO BREAKUP OF MICRONESIA. REP. DOMNICK TELLS ME THAT AT ONE POINT EARLIER IN SESSION HIS DELEGATION HAD RESOLUTION READY FOR INTRODUCTION WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE SEPARATE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. FOR ANY

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DISTRICT DESIRING SUCH. HOWEVER, COOLER HEADS PREVAILED AND NO PRECIPITATE ACTION EXPECTED THIS SESSION.
3. STATUS DEBATE. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO REAL DEBATE STATUS QUESTION, AND ONLY A FEW ISOLATED STATEMENTS ON SUBJECT. IT NOW SEEMS CLEAR STATUS DEBATE AS SUCH IS UNLIKELY TAKE PLACE, THOUGH THERE PROBABLY WILL BE A FEW STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS IN CLOSING DAYS OF SESSION. FEW IF ANY KEY MEMBERS EITHER HOUSE ARE LIKELY SPEAK UP. THIS RATHER ODD DEVELOPMENT FLOWS FROM RELUCTANCE MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICULARLY LEADERSHIP EXPOSE INTERNAL DIFFERENCES. IT IS CLEAR STATUS COMMITTEE HAS ENCOURAGED THIS SILENCE.
4. JAPANESE "BAN-THE-BOMB" GROUP INTERESTS.

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5. MESSAGE PREPARED FEBRUARY 22 IN PALAU. DORRANCE
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