

Responding to clear signals indicating a broad popular sentiment in the Trust Territory ~~to be the~~ by Micronesians for ~~early~~ on early transfer of the lands to local custody, the U.S. G. has decided to transfer, at the earliest time possible ~~to them to the~~ authority of ~~the~~ Micronesians six district legislatures. These ~~leg~~ bodies will determine final disposition ~~through~~ in accordance with the wishes of each district ~~people~~ citizens.

^{with} The enactment of)

~~In enacting~~ this new policy, which will give Micronesians ^{full} control of their own lands for the first time since the 16th Century, the U.S. Government is affirming its belief that the ~~final~~ disposition of public lands is a Micronesian question best resolved by people of Micronesia. This

~~Status~~

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For the past 26 years the United States Government as Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands has held in trust for the Micronesian people public lands amounting to more than 60% of the Territory's total land area. These public lands include ~~a~~ tracts acquired by the Spanish, German and Japanese Administrations as well as some land ~~acquired~~ ^{in use (acquired)} by the present U.S. administration. *(We have)*

The U.S. Government has always recognized that such public lands were Micronesian property to be safeguarded until such time as local political institutions would be ready to assume control and provide for disposition *(of them)* to the people of Micronesia.

~~Recognizing~~ ^{a clear signal} In response to ~~clear signals~~ indicating broad popular sentiment in the Trust Territory for an early transfer of the lands to local control, the U.S. Government has decided to transfer them at the earliest time possible to the authority of Micronesia's six district legislatures. These bodies will determine final disposition in accordance with the wishes of each district's citizens.

With the enactment of this policy, which will give Micronesians full control of their own lands for the first time since the 16th Century, the U.S. Government is affirming its belief that the disposition of public lands is a Micronesian question best resolved by the people of Micronesia,

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We also believe that the exercise of this basic responsibility
by elected

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low decision, important step forward

4 times 4

close on language on finance - $\frac{1}{2}$ provisions

U.S. will commit itself - for number of years (15)

funds for operations

capital improvement

accomplishment: for loans for district develop.

Application of U.S. laws in Micronesia

close together termination

differences in conceptual approach

U.S. - we will want to discuss your needs,

Mike - how much is FA. worth to U.S.

U.S. would have preferred to continue talks on other provisions of the compact such as transition and termination but we recognize

Recent actions are taken designed to encourage the Micronesian people along the path to self-government, it will suffice merely to emphasize again the far reaching and historic implications of the decision regarding land taken in the past two weeks by both sides.

In essence after an interminable period of waiting stretching back over the years, indeed, the centuries, Micronesians now have the opportunity and responsibility to control in accordance with their own laws and customs, the most precious commodity in all of Micronesia--land. If self-government can be defined as the individuals right to make decisions on those matters which concern him most directly and have greatest salience for his safety, transferring to the Micronesian people control over their public land must be considered as nothing less than an enormous step in the direction of self-government.