

PA. E.  
Aug 29 10

DISTAD PONAPE

UNCLASSIFIED

TRENT  
STATUS LNO, 7

SECSTATE  
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO  
JCS/SECDEF  
CINCPAC  
WHITE HOUSE  
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

ROUTINE

FROM STATUS LNO

PASS TO DEPARTMENT INTERIOR FOR OSN AND DASTA  
STATE FOR IO/UNP  
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS  
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA  
WHITE HOUSE FOR HOLDRIDGE (NSC)

SUBJECT: POLITICAL EDUCATION FOR MICRONESIA  
REFERENCE: MY 232023 Z AUG 72

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SEN TUN CHAIRMAN, SAID IN ITS REPORT AUG 28 RECOMMENDING PASSAGE OF BILL (REFTEL) THAT IT HAD CONCLUDED THAT "POLITICAL STATUS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING MICRONESIA TODAY AND THAT A VERY FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT, PREPARATION OF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE FOR A PLEBISCITE, IS BEING IGNORED. YOUR COMMITTEE FEELS THAT CONTINUING TO IGNORE PREPARATION OF THE PEOPLE TO DECIDE THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS CAN ONLY RESULT IN A TAINTED AND MEANINGLESS PLEBISCITE."

SEN TUN IN SPEECH AUG 25, REPORTED EXTENSIVELY BY MNS, STRESSED URGENT NEED FOR PREPARATION OF PEOPLE TO DECIDE "COMPLEX AND IMPORTANT" ISSUE OF STATUS. ~~HE SAID~~ HE CALLED ON CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE THAT JOINT STATUS COMMITTEE CANNOT BOTH CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS AND POLITICAL EDUCATION SIMULTANEOUSLY. HE THEREFORE URGED CREATION OF JOINT LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION TO RECOMMEND CONCRETE STEPS TOWARD PREPARATION OF PEOPLE FOR POLITICAL STATUS REFERENDUM.

TRENT

LNO *[Signature]*

031088