



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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Jensen
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ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 10-12 EA-11 RSR-01 RSC-01 /034 W
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R 030539Z SEP 72
FM DISTAD PONAPE
TO SECSTATE
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO
JCS/SECDEF
CINCPAC
WHITE HOUSE
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI
HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>Haef</u>	DATE FEB. 25 1987
RDS <input type="checkbox"/> or XDS <input type="checkbox"/> EXT. DATE _____	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>	
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>	
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

UNCLAS
FROM STATUS LNO
PASS TO DEPARTMENT INTERIOR FOR OSN AND DASTA
STATE FOR IO/UNF
COMTWELVE FOR AMBASAADOR WILLIAMS
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA
WHITE HOUSE FOR HOLDRIDGE (NSC)
SUBJECT: POLITICAL STATUS; CONGRESS CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON
INDEPENDENCE
SHORTLY BEFORE ADJOURNMENT SEPT 2 BOTH SENATE AND HOUSE
PASSED SJR 117 (REPORTED PREVIOUS TEL THIS SERIES AND COPIES
FORWARDED) WHICH, IN AMENDED VERSION, AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED

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JOINT STATUS COMMITTEE "TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED
STATE REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MICRONESIA AS INDEPENDENT

NATION, WHILE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD FREE ASSOCIATION."
PASSAGE CAME BY CLOSE VOICE VOTE AFTER DEBATE IN SENATE, BUT
SLIPPED THROUGH QUICKLY INHOUSE AFTER SHORT SUPPORTING REMARKS
BY NAKAYAMA (TRUK) AND OPPOSITION BY MANGEFEL (YAP) WHO THOUGHT
RESOLUTION WOULD ONLY COMPLICATE THE JOB OF HARD-WORKING STATUS
COMMITTEE, AND SAID THAT A MAJORITY OF MICRONESIANS DO IN FACT
WANT INDEPENDENCE. THERE IS NOTHING TO NEGOTIATE.

CONGRESS HAD BEFORE IT REPORT ON THE RESOLUTION FROM

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SENATE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, SIGNED BY AMARAICH, SALII, TUN AND BORJA (WHO NOTED NON-CONCURRENCE). COPIES FORWARDED. REPORT ASSERTED IT WAS NOT PASSING JUDGEMENT ON DRAFT COMPACT, BUT BELIEVED IT PRUDENT TO BEGIN NEGOTIATING ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF STATUS IN CASE FREE ASSOCIATION PROVES UNACCEPTABLE; PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE CLEAR CHOICE. AGREEMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF JOINT STATUS COMMITTEE WAS NOTED. REPORT SAID RESOLUTION IS NOT A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, BUT IS "ONE OF THE MOST HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS OUR CONGRESS HAS EVER CONSIDERED."

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CONGRESSMAN ALSO HAD COPIES OF AN OPEN LETTER (COPIES FORWARDED) CIRCULATED YESTERDAY MORNING SEPT 2, ADDRESSED TO SENATE PRESIDENT AND HOUSE SPEAKER, ASSERTING MICRONESIA'S FULL SOVEREIGNTY AND DECLARING THAT SIGNERS WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S. "IF SUCH AN ASSOCIATION WILL NOT PROTECT THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF OUR PEOPLE." LETTER WAS SIGNED BY SIXTEEN CONGRESSMEN (13 REPRESENTATIVES AND 3 SENATORS) AND LISTED FOLLOWING POINTS IN THEIR POSITION:

1. ASSOCIATION BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND US MUST BE SEALED BY TREATY, NOT COMPACT.

2. MICRONESIA MUST BE AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL STATE, "EVEN FOR A FEW MINUTES, AND BEFORE ENTERING INTO A TREATY OF ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES".

3. MICRONESIA MUST HAVE CONSTITUTION WHICH WILL BE SUPREME LAW AND NOT SUBSERVIENT TO TREATY OF ASSOCIATION.

4. MUST HAVE FULL INTERNAL SOVEREIGNTY.

5. MUST RETAIN FULL EXTERNAL SOVEREIGNTY BUT CAN DELEGATE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ASSOCIATION AND LATER THROUGH AGREEMENTS, CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE U.S.

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6. MICRONESIA MUST NOT RELINQUISH ULTIMATE CONTROL OVER US MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN MICRONESIA AND CONGRESS MUST OBTAIN PRIOR CONSENT OF DISTRICTS INVOLVED BEFORE COMMITTING THEIR LANDS AND WATERS.

LETTER SIGNED BY FOLLOWING: SENATORS AMARAICH (TRUK), NAKAYAMA (TRUK) TMETUHL (PALAU); REPS HAURO, DCIS, SETIK

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NAKAYAMA, WILLIANDER (ALL FROM TRUK), SAMUEL BALOS DOMNICK (MARSHALL); PEDRO, BASILIUS, OLKERIIL (PALAU) SIGRAH AND IRIARTE (PONAPE).

SPEAKING IN SENATE DEBATE, IEHSI (PONAPE) RECALLING THAT HE HAD EARLIER SPOKEN IN SUPPORT OF COMPACT, SAID MISTAKENLY THAT LETTER HAD BEEN SIGNED BY MAJORITY OF CONGRESSMEN, AND IF MAJORITY ADVOCATES INDEPENDENCE, STATUS COMMITTEE SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS WITH US "WHEN AND HOW WE ARE GOING TO GET OUR INDEPENDENCE ". IEHSI SAID HE PERSONALLY DID NOT SUPPORT COURSE OF INDEPENDENCE, BUT URGED THAT IF THAT IS WHAT MICRONESIA REALLY WANTS, THIS SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO OPEN.

AMARAICH REVIEWED THREE MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS RE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION:

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1. TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT REQUIRES THAT PEOPLE BE AWARE OF CHOICES, 2. IF WE ARE THINKING OF INDEPENDENCE, THIS IS TIME TO MOVE IN THAT DIRECTION, 3. UN MIGHT INSIST THAT IN PLEBISCITE INDEPENDENCE BE AN ALTERNATIVE. CONGRESS THEREFORE HAS RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM PEOPLE OF ALTERNATIVES.

SALII MOVED FOR PREVIOUS QUESTION; NAKAYAMA MOVED APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION WHICH WAS THEN ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE. HOUSE CONCURRENCE CAME SHORTLY THEREAFTER. TRENT

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