

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

10 / Status -
7,6 Sept. 3, 1972

FROM DISTAD PONAPE	INFORMATION	CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED	ORIGINATOR TRENT STATUS LNO
TO SECSTATE COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO JCS/SECDEF CINCPAC WHITE HOUSE		<i>R-030539Z</i>	CLEARANCES
PRECEDENCE CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN	PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	DATE TIME GROUP	HC DHC AD CS PA R&D AG AGR ASU AUD B&F COM CDO EC E&C ED IO LPC MIO MS PAO PER P&S PW SPU TS

FRGM 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 STATUS: CONGRESS CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON
INDEPENDENCE

SHORTLY BEFORE ADJOURNMENT SEPT 2 BOTH SENATE AN HOUSE PASSED
SJR 117 (REPORTED PREVIOUS TEL THIS SERIES AND COPIES FORWARDED)
WHICH, IN AMENDED VERSION, AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED JOINT STATUS COM-
MITTEE "TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES REGARDING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF MICRONESIA AS AN 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 N.KAYAMA (TRUK) AND OPPOSITION BY
MANCEFEL (YAP) WHO THOUGHT RESOLUTIONWOULD ONLY COMPLICATE THE JOB
OF HARD-WORKING STATUS COMMITTEE, AND SAID THAT IF MAJORITY OF
MICRONESIANS DO IN FACT WANT INDEPENDENCE, THERE IS NOTHING TO NEGOTIATE.

CONGRESS HAD BEFORE IT REPORT ON THE RESOLUTION FROM SENATE
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, SIGNED BY AMARAICH,
SALII, TUN, AND BCRJA (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 SIAD RESOLUTION IS NOT A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, BUT IS
"ONE OF THE MOST HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS ~~EXX~~ OUR CONGRESS
HAS EVER CONSIDERED."

CONGRESSMEN ALSO HAD COPIES OF AN OPEN LETTER (COPIES FORWARDED)
CIRCULATED YESTERDAY MORNING SEPT 2, ADDRESSED TO ~~SENATE PRESIDENT~~
SENATE PRESIDENT AND HOUSE SPEAKER, ASSERTING MICRONESIA'S FULL
SOVEREIGNTY AND DECLARING THAT SIGNERS WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY ASSOCIATION

(more)

RELEASE		
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