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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 26, 1972

MEMORANDUM TO: The Chairman, Interagency Group
on Micronesian Status

SUBJECT: Special Study on Long-Term Aspects
of U.S.-Micronesian Relations

The Departments of State, Interior and Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have agreed that a special study of the long-term aspects of U.S.-Micronesia relations should be prepared for consideration by the Under Secretaries Committee.

The Interagency Group on Micronesian Status is requested to undertake such a study on a priority basis, submitting it for the Committee's consideration before March 1, 1973. In preparing the study, the Interagency Group should draw on all appropriate resources, including experts/consultants outside the government.

The study should include inter alia a reassessment of the basic U.S. objectives in Micronesia, an update of the NSC-USC 1971 paper on Micronesia and a review of U.S. programs in the TTPI to determine the degree to which they are supportive of U.S. national interests and objectives. It will be separate from on-going NSC papers and studies dealing with the immediate problems of the negotiations concerning the future political status of the TTPI, but should take the needs of these negotiations into careful consideration as the major controlling element in future U.S. policy towards Micronesia. New policy options and alternative courses of action should be examined in depth together with data and other considerations supporting or arguing against them.

Among the specifics to be considered are the following:

- a. On the assumption our negotiations are successful, a recommended time table/scenario for termination of the Trusteeship, preparations for a plebiscite and all related UN questions.

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b. On the assumption our negotiations are not successful, recommendations for our future policies toward the territory, including possible special relations with the Marianas or other areas of Micronesia.

c. Means for strengthening the image of the United States in Micronesia and improving the negotiating environment for attaining U.S. objectives.

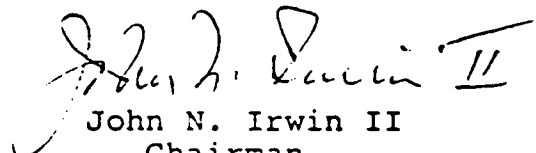
d. The substantive improvement of U.S. sources of information on what is happening internally in Micronesia.

e. The pros and cons of alternative policy recommendations regarding future foreign trade and investment in the area.

f. The extent to which specific U.S. programs supported U.S. objectives. For example:

- (1) The Leader Grant Program
- (2) DOD public impact programs such as the Civic Action Teams
- (3) The Peace Corps
- (4) OEO Programs

The foregoing list is not intended to be all inclusive; it is, however, illustrative of the broad-gauged approach which is required for the study to serve as the basis for the preparation of options and sound policy recommendations for the President.


John N. Irwin II
Chairman
Under Secretaries Committee

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