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Brief Lunch Conversation with ~~XXXXXX~~ John Dorrance, 1/23/73.

--Dorrance is an FSO in the ~~Office~~ Office of ~~XXX~~ East Asian Affairs. He ~~has~~ served for ~~xxx~~ past two years in the Trust Territory as Political Adviser to the High Commissioner. Before that he has had other stations in the South Pacific, Australia, Fiji, etc.

--He reports that his office has just taken major responsibility for the State Dept. action on the Micro. negotiations. Took it from the UN people. The latter will stay involved, especially in the beginning because they have much experience.

--As for ~~xaxx~~ analogies. Dorrance thinks that the Cook Islands are good analogies for the rest of the TT islands, since a form of association. As for the Marianas, he said Puerto Rico is best. Prefers the Commonwealth--a higher status than Guam or the Virgin Islands. In PR, their ~~Constitution~~ Constitution is not a Congressional act and they can amend it without U.S. Congressional approval. The constitutions of the Virgin Islands and Guam ~~have~~ are ~~xxxxxxx~~ Congressional Act.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

--He emphasized the Marianas history. Essentially, the country has westernized land holding laws and no particular culture of its own. A few ~~centuries~~ centuries ago, the Marianas people revolted against the Spaniards. Spanish retaliated by killing every male. The women were then given as brides to the Spanish soldiers who were ~~of~~ Spanish, Mexican, and Filipino. Moreover, everyone was moved to Guam.

As a result, when the people returned, no long tradition of land ownership. Also, the race was mixed.

The culture now is really Spanish-Filipino.

--He urged me to see the May ~~1979~~ 1970 report of the Status Commission. (after the second round) . The U.S. Commonwealth proposal is published there.

--As for people, he said he would be happy to talk to us. Also recommended that we see ~~Stanley Carpenter~~ Jim Whittington in Stanley Carpenter's Office. Whittington has ~~been~~ been around for long time, also knows about the analggies.

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