

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

03
5

cc: GC
Chron
Circulating
File: ILP - TTPI

I-21408

7 March 1973

DECLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR CAPTAIN GORDON SCHULLER, USN
OSD, ISA/EA&PR

SUBJECT: Negotiations on the Future Political Status of the
Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the
Pacific Islands.

With respect to your request for a review of the very
substantial package relating to the above subject, I offer the
following comments:

1. As set forth in earlier opinions I continue to believe
that the objectives should be stated more sharply than they are
here primarily to establish absolute clarification of United States
policy including its legal policy. The present language set forth
in the summary and in the instructions to Ambassador Williams
does not adequately achieve this goal.

2. The United States must emphatically take the position
that its approach is not only fully consistent with the United Nations
Charter and the Strategic Trust Agreement but in doing so emphasize
that the Marianas either in choosing to become part of United States
territory, or in choosing to maintain their form of self-government
under United States sovereignty, or both, is not only a choice which
they have made but is what they would have expected a right to self-
government to mean. In view of numerous earlier opinions this
point needs no further emphasis here.

3. A provision to the effect in the instructions that the Marianas
shall seek "internal self-government under a locally drafted constitu-
tion" should be clarified. Such a constitution must not be inconsistent
either with what the Congress of the United States expects, United
States Constitution to the extent that it applies either to incorporated
or unincorporated territories, or inconsistent with the basic though
somewhat ambiguous United Nations Charter "requirements" and
practices.

OSD, ISA/EA&PR

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

Classified by _____
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. 31 Dec 1981
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS UNLESS DECLASSIFIED OR

Harry H. Almond, Jr.

Office of Assistant General Counsel

International Affairs (IA) No-

cc: Mr. Dennis Doolin, ISA

9633 78

10-63558