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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 9, 1973

MEMORANDUM

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TO: INTERIOR/OMSN - Admiral Crowe  
FROM: STATE/EA - Arthur W. Hummel, Jr ~~AK~~  
SUBJECT: Micronesian Negotiations Study

With the following caveats, the subject study (provided to State under cover of an OMSN Memorandum dated July 27, and as amended by the Interagency Working Group on August 7 and 8) is cleared by the Department of State for submission to the NSC Under Secretaries Committee. Mr. Dorrance, EA/ANP, should be informed of any further changes by other agencies, or by your office, which might affect State's position on the study..

While the study has been cleared by State for submission to the Under Secretaries Committee, we believe that it is inadequate in several basic areas. In general, we find that the study:

-- understates the important legal, political, moral, and tactical considerations arguing for an independence option;

-- understates the strains in our relationships with the political elite in Micronesia, and over-emphasizes the political role of the so-called "silent majority" and second-echelon leadership of Micronesia;

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A./CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY B.H. BAAS DATE 4/23/87

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-- overstates the possibilities for again testing the 1970 Commonwealth proposal; and,

-- overstates the strategic importance of Micronesia in general and of the Palau options in particular.

For all of the above reasons, State has found it necessary to annex to the study separate position papers on (a) an independence option, and (b) the strategic importance of Micronesia and of the Palau options. Our opinions on these points will also be drawn to the attention of the NSC Under Secretaries Committee when the study is forwarded to that Committee.

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