

work could be completed on a Compact of Free Association during the next round of negotiations. Those negotiations are to start November 10, 1973, in Washington.

The U.S. delegation is lead by the President's personal representative, Ambassador Madyn Williams, and the Ambassador is reported to have told the Micronesians the U.S. would help finance a Constitutional Convention they plan to hold in June 1974 (assuming agreement on the Compact is reached in the November negotiations). The Micronesians plan to finance the remaining \$250 K of the convention cost from their own tax revenues.

This item is recommended to lend support for the President's instructions to the Ambassador to complete the negotiations as soon as possible on terms acceptable to the U.S.

2) Accelerated Land Cadastral Program

The Ambassador has agreed to return the so-called public lands to the Micronesians. The Micronesians have requested that the lands be returned only after ownership has been clarified, surveys completed, and certification of title issued. The U.S. has an interest in complying with the request, particularly in the Mariana and Palau Districts because of Defense interests in potential future use of lands in those areas.

The estimated total cost of completing the survey by contract and completing adjudication of ownership is estimated at roughly \$6 million. We believe \$800 K will be sufficient to get the program underway on an accelerated basis in 1974.

3) Accelerated Education for Self-Government Program

The Micronesian negotiators, the Ambassador and the Interior Department all are in agreement. There is an urgent need to provide an accelerated program in order to have an informed plebiscite on the Compact of Free Association. The U.N. Visiting Mission criticized the U.S. this spring for not having initiated this effort sooner. However, we recommend \$100 K as an appropriate level of effort.

Larry D. Cardwell
Interior Branch
Natural Resources Division

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