

1973

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PROGRAM: POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR

#2... FREE ASSOCIATION

THEME: UP, ESTABLISH TEN SECONDS THEN DOWN AND
UNDER ANNOUNCER.

ANNOUNCER: THIS PROGRAM, POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR, IS A PUBLIC SERVICE PRESENTATION OF THE HEAD-QUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THE SERIES IS DESIGNED TO HELP BRING ABOUT AN AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA. THE TRUST TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION TAKES NO SIDES IN THE POLITICAL ISSUES ON THE FUTURE OF MICRONESIA. ITS TASK IS SIMPLY TO PRESENT THE ISSUES AS THEY ARE, NOT TO INTERPRET THEM OR DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS FROM THEM.

THEME: UP, ESTABLISH FIVE SECONDS THEN DOWN, UNDER
NARRATOR AND OUT.

NARRATOR: TODAY WE WILL DISCUSS FREE ASSOCIATION AND TRY TO LEARN WHAT IT WOULD MEAN TO MICRONESIA AND MICRONESIANS.

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: IN JULY, 1969, THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION CREATED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO STUDY THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF MICRONESIA SUBMITTED ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS. THESE WERE THAT MICRONESIA BECOME A SELF-GOVERNING STATE AND THAT IT NEGOTIATE A FREE ASSOCIATION COMPACT WITH THE UNITED STATES, WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE COMMISSION ALSO URGED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES BE INVITED TO MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT AND TO DECIDE ON THE EARLY TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMISSION RECOGNIZED TWO INESCAPABLE FACTS: THE REALITY OF MICRONESIANS' DESIRE FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO MAINTAIN ITS STRONG INTERESTS IN THE AREA. THEREFORE

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: THE COMMISSION SAID THAT THE TASK WAS NOT TO TERMINATE BUT TO REDEFINE AND IMPROVE U. S. - MICRONESIAN RELATIONS. THE NEED TO RECONCILE AND ACCOMMODATE THE INTERESTS OF BOTH PEOPLES STRUCK THE COMMISSION AS MOST DESIRABLE.

DURING A VISIT TO MICRONESIA IN 1969, THE U. S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR INVITED THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO SELECT ITS MOST EXPERIENCED MEMBERS TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U. S. IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF MICRONESIA---ONE THAT WOULD BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE DESIRES OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE. AS A RESULT OF THIS, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SENT A SPECIAL DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON TO CONFER WITH U. S. LEADERS ON STATUS ALTERNATIVES. THIS WAS AN EXPLORATORY MEETING DURING WHICH THE U. S. SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING MICRONESIA BECOME A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS FOLLOWED BY A SECOND MEETING

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: ON SAIPAN IN 1970, AT WHICH THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION SUGGESTED A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE U. S. BASED ON CONDITIONS OR PRINCIPLES WHICH IT FELT ANY AGREEMENT SHOULD REFLECT. WE DISCUSS THESE LATER IN THE PROGRAM.

THE U. S. SIDE WAS GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC AND OFFERED TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH STATUS FOR MICRONESIA SIMILAR IN MANY WAYS TO THAT OF PUERTO RICO. THIS OFFER WAS TURNED DOWN BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ALTHOUGH IT WAS FAVORABLY RECEIVED IN THE MARIANAS.

THEN IN THE SPRING OF 1971, THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. S. DESIGNATED A SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR STATUS NEGOTIATIONS. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, ANOTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WAS HELD IN HANA, MAUI WITH A RECONSTITUTED FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. IN HANA AND LATER IN

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: KOROR, THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THE FOUR BASIC CONDITIONS ADVANCED BY THE MICRONESIAN SIDE, ALTHOUGH IT MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANY FINAL AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF THE SECURITY OBLIGATIONS OF THE U.S. IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREA WHICH WERE RECOGNIZED EARLIER IN THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT. THUS BY EARLY 1972, THE UNITED STATES HAD COME TO ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY OF FREE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ISLANDS AND PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA. LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT FREE ASSOCIATION.

ANNOUNCER: FREE ASSOCIATION IS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO POLITICAL GROUPS WHICH ENABLES A PEOPLE TO MOVE FROM A POLITICAL STATUS THAT PERMITTED THEM ONLY LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT TO A POLITICAL STATUS THAT PERMITS THEM COMPLETE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR OWN INTERNAL GOVERNMENT. AT THE SAME TIME IT ALLOWS THEM TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE HELP AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE FORMER ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY.

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ANNOUNCER: THIS FREE ASSOCIATION SATISFIES THE PEOPLE'S BASIC ASPIRATIONS TO RULE OR GOVERN THEMSELVES AND STILL PROTECTS THEIR INDIVIDUALITY AND CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS. AT THE SAME TIME, IT RECOGNIZES THAT A NEW GOVERNMENT WILL STILL NEED TO DEPEND ON ITS ASSOCIATED PARTNER FOR ASSISTANCE AND GUIDANCE UNTIL IT HAS ENOUGH EXPERIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT TO STAND ALONE. HERE IT HAS ALSO BEEN RECOGNIZED THAT THERE ARE SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH APPLY TO A TERRITORY OF SMALL POPULATION AND LIMITED RESOURCES IN A STRATEGIC PART OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

IN THE VIEW OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOUR IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES AND LEGAL RIGHTS ARE BASIC TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS MEANT BY THIS KIND OF FREE ASSOCIATION. THESE WERE THE PRINCIPLES ITS JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS HAD PREPARED EARLIER IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. AS FINALLY ENDORSED BY THE

(CONTD)

ANNOUNCER: CONGRESS THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 - THAT SOVEREIGNTY IN MICRONESIA RESIDES
IN THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA AND THEIR
DULY CONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT;
- 2 - THAT THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA POSSESS
THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND MAY,
THEREFORE, CHOOSE INDEPENDENCE OR SELF-
GOVERNMENT IN FREE ASSOCIATION WITH ANY
NATION OR ORGANIZATION OF NATIONS;
- 3 - THAT THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA HAVE THE
RIGHT TO ADOPT THEIR OWN CONSTITUTION
AND TO AMEND, CHANGE, OR REVOKE ANY
CONSTITUTION OR GOVERNMENTAL PLAN AT
ANY TIME; AND
- 4 - THAT FREE ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE IN THE
FORM OF A REVOCABLE COMPACT, TERMINABLE
UNILATERALLY BY EITHER PARTY.

NARRATOR: ACCORDING TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S
JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, ANY ARRANGE-
MENT WHICH FALLS SHORT OF THESE FOUR BASIC

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: GUIDELINES IS NOT FREE ASSOCIATION. THEY ARE AN ATTEMPT TO CLEARLY TELL EVERYONE HOW MICRONESIANS THINK AND FEEL ABOUT THEIR RIGHTS AND THE OWNERSHIP OF THEIR LANDS AND TERRITORIAL WATERS.

THEME: BRIDGE - UP BRIEFLY, THEN FADE OUT UNDER:

NARRATOR: LET US NOW LOOK AT FREE ASSOCIATION AND WHAT ACTUALLY IT WOULD MEAN TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IF AND WHEN THIS POLITICAL ARRANGEMENT WERE FINALLY AGREED UPON.

DURING THE LAST FOUR ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS THE TWO DELEGATIONS HAVE COME TO AGREE THAT A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. SO FAR ONLY A PARTIAL DRAFT COMPACT HAS RESULTED FROM THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

ANNOUNCER: UNDER THIS PARTIAL DRAFT COMPACT, THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE WOULD BE FREE TO RUN THEIR OWN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. MICRONESIANS WOULD DRAFT

(CONTD)

ANNOUNCER: THEIR OWN CONSTITUTION, A CONSTITUTION THAT MUST BE BASED ON DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. THEY WOULD ALSO BE FREE TO ELECT AND CHOOSE THEIR OWN LEADERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES AS WELL AS THE JUDICIARY. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MICRONESIA'S DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS; IN ADDITION, THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MICRONESIA. MICRONESIA WOULD PERMIT THE U. S. THE CONTINUED USE OR RIGHT TO USE CERTAIN PIECES OF LAND IN MICRONESIA. THE U. S. MILITARY HAS LAND REQUIREMENTS ONLY IN THE MARSHALL AND PALAU DISTRICTS. (THE MARIANAS ARE NEGOTIATING SEPARATELY WITH THE UNITED STATES ON THIS MATTER.) FURTHERMORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA WOULD AGREE NOT TO ALLOW THE ENTRY OF THE MILITARY FORCES OF A THIRD COUNTRY IN MICRONESIA.

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ANNOUNCER: AT THIS POINT, IT IS NOT YET DECIDED HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA WOULD BE RUN AND ORGANIZED UNDER FREE ASSOCIATION. THIS IS A MICRONESIAN DECISION. THIS IS STILL UNDER STUDY BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. WITH RESPECT TO FINANCE, THIS TCC, IS STILL UNDECIDED. THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS AND THE U. S. DELEGATION ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH MONEY THE U. S. GOVERNMENT SHOULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA IN ITS OPERATIONS AND FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. ALSO TO BE DISCUSSED ARE TRADE AND COMMERCE, TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FROM THE PRESENT TO THE NEW STATUS, AND DETAILS OF HOW THE FREE ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENT MIGHT BE TERMINATED UNILATERALLY IF EITHER SIDE DESIRES, AFTER BEING IN EFFECT FOR A PERIOD OF YEARS.

NARRATOR: AS ALL OF YOU CAN SEE, THE ARRANGEMENT OF FREE ASSOCIATION IS A GIVE AND TAKE PROPOSITION.

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: THE U. S. GOVERNMENT IS GIVEN CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES WHILE MICRONESIA GUARANTEES CERTAIN RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES TO THE U. S. GOVERNMENT TO ENABLE IT TO CARRY OUT THOSE RESPONSIBILITIES. MICRONESIANS, UNDER THIS ARRANGEMENT, WOULD RUN THEIR OWN INTERNAL GOVERNMENT. CERTAIN AREAS IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUCH AS TRADE AND EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE WOULD ALSO BE HANDLED BY MICRONESIANS, THEMSELVES. IN CHOOSING THE RELATIONSHIP OF FREE ASSOCIATION, MICRONESIA WOULD NOT EXERCISE FULL INDEPENDENCE OR REMAIN UNDER THE TRUSTEESHIP, BUT INSTEAD WOULD ENTER INTO A FORMAL RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH SOME OF THE BURDENS OF RUNNING A GOVERNMENT WOULD BE FREELY GIVEN TO THE UNITED STATES IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN RIGHTS AND PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL SECURITY.

THIS ARRANGEMENT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WAS APPROVED BY A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND IS FAVORED BY MANY

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: PEOPLE THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA. THERE ARE STILL THOSE WITHIN MICRONESIA, HOWEVER, WHO DO NOT LIKE THIS ARRANGEMENT AND WANT SOMETHING ELSE.

THEME: BRIDGE - UP BRIEFLY. THEN OUT UNDER:

NARRATOR: LET US NOW LOOK AT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS ARRANGEMENT OF FREE ASSOCIATION ECONOMICALLY, POLITICALLY AND CULTURALLY.

ECONOMICALLY, MICRONESIA WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WITH ITS PRESENT PROGRAMS AND SOME OF ITS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS. IT WOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE U. S. GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD ALLOW IT TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LIVING THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA. ON THE OTHER HAND, HOWEVER, MICRONESIA COULD BECOME DEPENDENT UPON A LEVEL OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE SUPPORT WHICH IT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PRODUCE FROM ITS SMALL ECONOMIC RESOURCES. UNLESS IT WERE ABLE TO BUILD AN EFFECTIVE BASE FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH DURING THE PERIOD OF

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: FREE ASSOCIATION, IT WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE
A DEPENDENT ECONOMY.

POLITICALLY, MICRONESIA WOULD ASSUME FULL
GOVERNMENTAL POWERS UNDER ITS OWN FREELY
ADOPTED CONSTITUTION WITH ITS OWN INDEPENDENT
LEGISLATURE RESPONSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE OF
MICRONESIA. MICRONESIA WOULD ALSO BE FREE TO
MAKE INTERNAL CHANGES AND EVEN TO TERMINATE
THE FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP AFTER A
PERIOD OF YEARS IF THE PEOPLE WISHED IT.

CULTURALLY, THERE ARE THOSE WHO FEEL THAT
MICRONESIA HAS REACHED THE POINT OF NO RETURN;
THEREFORE, THE DESIRE TO PRESERVE A LONG-
STANDING CULTURE IS A LOSING BATTLE. ON THE
OTHER HAND, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WANT TO
COMBINE WHAT IS THE BEST FROM BOTH CULTURES,
AND UNDER FREE ASSOCIATION THIS MAY BE
POSSIBLE.

ANNOUNCER: IN AUGUST OF 1972, IN THE SPECIAL SESSION HELD IN
PONAPE, THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION
WAS SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS FOR ITS REVIEW.
SINCE THE DRAFT COMPACT WAS NOT YET COMPLETE
AND ALL THE TERMS NOT YET AVAILABLE FOR
REVIEW, CONGRESS DID NOT ACT ON IT ONE WAY OR
THE OTHER. IT TOLD THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON
FUTURE STATUS TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING AND TO
EXPLORE AN INDEPENDENCE ALTERNATIVE ALONG
WITH THE ARRANGEMENT FOR FREE ASSOCIATION.

ON OUR NEXT PROGRAM WE WILL DISCUSS THE VIEWS
OF THE INDEPENDENCE ADVOCATES AND WHAT THEY
WOULD MEAN FOR MICRONESIA.

THEME: UP, ESTABLISH 10 SECONDS. THEN FADE UNDER:

ANNOUNCER: NEXT WEEK WE WILL HEAR THE THIRD PROGRAM OF
THIS SERIES. . . . POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR.
THIS HAS BEEN A PUBLIC SERVICE PRESENTATION OF
THE HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
AFFAIRS. THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO HELP
BRING ABOUT AN AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS

(CONTD)

ANNOUNCER: POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO THE PEOPLE
OF MICRONESIA.

THIS PROGRAM HAS COME TO YOU FROM SAIPAN AND
IS A PRESENTATION OF THE MICRONESIAN BROAD-
CASTING SERVICE.

THEME: UP TO END OF TIME.

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PROGRAM: POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR

#3...INDEPENDENCE

THEME: UP. ESTABLISH TEN SECONDS THEN DOWN AND UNDER
ANNOUNCER.

ANNOUNCER: THIS PROGRAM, POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR,
IS A PUBLIC SERVICE PRESENTATION OF HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THE SERIES IS
DESIGNED TO HELP BRING ABOUT AN AWARENESS OF
THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE
TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

THE TRUST TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION TAKES NO
SIDES IN THE POLITICAL ISSUES ON THE FUTURE OF
MICRONESIA. ITS TASK IS SIMPLY TO PRESENT THE
ISSUES AS THEY ARE, NOT TO INTERPRET THEM OR
DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS FROM THEM.

THEME: UP, ESTABLISH FIVE SECONDS THEN DOWN, UNDER
NARRATOR AND OUT.

NARRATOR: TODAY WE WILL LOOK AT INDEPENDENCE AS A
POLITICAL CHOICE FOR MICRONESIA, UNDER THE
TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT, THE UNITED STATES IS

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: RESPONSIBLE FOR PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLES OF MICRONESIA TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF MICRONESIA AND THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE. EITHER ALTERNATIVE MUST REFLECT THE FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES OF THE PEOPLE CONCERNED.

WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT INDEPENDENCE WAS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE, THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION RECOMMENDED TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN JULY, 1969, THAT IT BE CONSIDERED BY MICRONESIANS ONLY IN THE EVENT THAT FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES WERE NOT POSSIBLE. IN THE CURRENT SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS, HOWEVER, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE CONGRESS TO NEGOTIATE AN INDEPENDENCE ALTERNATIVE ALONG WITH THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

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NARRATOR: DURING THE FIRST FIVE ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U. S. REPRESENTATIVES AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS WERE LIMITED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION, AND ALL OF THESE ROUNDS OF NEGOTIATIONS WERE DIRECTED TOWARD THAT END.

WHEN THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS MET WITH U. S. REPRESENTATIVES AT BARBERS POINT, HAWAII FOR THE SIXTH ROUND OF TALKS, ITS MEMBERS ASKED THAT INDEPENDENCE, AS WELL AS FREE ASSOCIATION, BE CONSIDERED. HOWEVER, NEITHER SIDE WAS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS ALTERNATIVE IN ANY DEPTH AT THAT TIME.

THEME: BRIDGE - UP BRIEFLY, THEN OUT UNDER:

NARRATOR: LET US LOOK AT INDEPENDENCE AND SEE WHAT IT COULD OR COULD NOT MEAN TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

INDEPENDENCE, FIRST OF ALL, IS VIEWED BY SOME AS THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP SYSTEM.

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: IT HAS BEEN THE CHOICE MADE BY ALL OF THE NINE TRUST TERRITORIES WHICH HAVE SO FAR CHANGED THEIR STATUS. CERTAINLY IN THE EYES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE AN HONORABLE AND FULLY ACCEPTABLE STATUS.

AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE, MICRONESIA WOULD POSSESS FULL LEGAL CONTROL OF ITS OWN AFFAIRS. ANY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER NATIONS OR GROUPS OF OTHER NATIONS WOULD REQUIRE MICRONESIAN CONSENT. IT COULD NEGOTIATE WITH ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT IN ITS OWN BEHALF AND COULD JOIN ANY REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL BODY, BUT THERE WOULD BE NO GUARANTEES OF SUPPORT OR ASSISTANCE TO MICRONESIA BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS UNLESS MICRONESIA WAS PREPARED TO AGREE TO CERTAIN ARRANGEMENTS WITH THOSE POWERS. ALTHOUGH THE REALITIES OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE WOULD LIKELY OBLIGE THE MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO GIVE AWAY CERTAIN RIGHTS IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN BENEFITS, SUCH DECISIONS WOULD BE MADE BY MICRONESIANS AND NOT BY OTHERS ACTING ON THEIR BEHALF.

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NARRATOR: THERE ARE, OF COURSE, DISADVANTAGES TO INDEPENDENCE. THE MAJORITY OF THEM COME, NOT FROM POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, BUT FROM ECONOMIC FACTORS. THE LACK OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE SMALL POPULATION, GEOGRAPHICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN ISLANDS, CULTURAL DIVERSITY, COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES WOULD GRAVELY CHALLENGE ANY MICRONESIAN ADMINISTRATION AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CREATE PROBLEMS FOR THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT.

MOREOVER, A NEW GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM FOR AN INDEPENDENT MICRONESIA MIGHT PROVE TOO DIFFICULT TO OPERATE FOR MANY MICRONESIANS WHO ARE NOW USED TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

IN ADDITION, THE MOST SERIOUS DISADVANTAGE OF INDEPENDENCE IS THAT, EVEN TO CONTINUE TO HAVE THOSE THINGS WHICH MANY MICRONESIANS BELIEVE THEY SHOULD HAVE TO LIVE BY AND TO USE

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: EVERY DAY, MICRONESIA WOULD NEED CONSIDERABLE OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. AND, TO CARRY OUT NEW PROGRAMS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EVEN GREATER AID WOULD BE REQUIRED. IT MAY ALSO BE DIFFICULT FOR AN INDEPENDENT MICRONESIA TO OBTAIN THE INITIAL FUNDING LEVELS NECESSARY TO DEVELOP A SELF-SUFFICIENT ECONOMY.

WHEREAS A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WOULD PROVIDE SPECIFIC TERMS OF AID, AN INDEPENDENT MICRONESIA WOULD HAVE TO RELY FOR AID ON WHATEVER IT COULD NEGOTIATE. IT MUST BE ANTICIPATED THAT ANY DONORS WILL DEMAND SOMETHING IN RETURN.

ANNOUNCER: THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS IS CONTINUING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TOWARD THE COMPLETION OF THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WHILE THE OPTION OF INDEPENDENCE REMAINS TO BE DISCUSSED.

OUTSIDE OF THESE CONSIDERATIONS, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE MODERN WORLD, THERE ARE THOSE

(CONTD)

ANNOUNCER: WHO SEE INDEPENDENCE AS A MOVE BACKWARD TOWARD A TARO PATCH AND FISH ECONOMY... A HAPPY AND CAREFREE SOCIETY IN WHICH THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WOULD SOMEWHAT IGNORE THE MODERN WORLD AND LIVE ON A SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY. FOR SOME, IT IS AN ASPECT OF INDEPENDENCE THAT MUST BE CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBILITY, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO ATTRACT THE YOUNGER GENERATION OF MICRONESIA TO IT.

DURING THE SPECIAL SESSION IN PONAPE IN 1972, THE 16 MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WHO SIGNED A LETTER TO THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESS MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS, AMONG OTHERS, REGARDING THE POSITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT IN MICRONESIA.

1. MICRONESIA MUST BE INDEPENDENT BEFORE ENTERING INTO A TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.
2. MICRONESIA MUST HAVE A CONSTITUTION WHICH

(CONTD)

ANNOUNCER:

WILL BE THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND,
AND NOT BE SUBSERVIENT TO THE COMPACT
OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

3. MICRONESIA MUST HAVE FULL INTERNAL
SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS OWN INTERNAL
MATTERS.
4. MICRONESIA MUST RETAIN FULL SOVEREIGNTY
OVER EXTERNAL MATTERS.
5. MICRONESIA MUST NOT RELINQUISH THE
ULTIMATE CONTROL OVER THE U. S. MILITARY
ACTIVITIES IN MICRONESIA.

NARRATOR: FROM THESE POINTS WE CAN READILY SEE THAT
THE SIGNERS OF THIS LETTER SEEK FULL INDEPENDENCE
FOR MICRONESIA.

WHAT IS MEANT BY FULL INDEPENDENCE, HOWEVER,
IS STILL TO BE DEFINED, JUST AS LESSER VARIETIES
OF INDEPENDENCE REMAIN TO BE DEFINED.

INDEPENDENCE NEVERTHELESS IS CERTAINLY A
STATUS OPTION, BUT IT IS UP TO THE PEOPLE OF

(CONTD)

NARRATOR: MICRONESIA TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES WHAT POLITICAL STATUS THEY WANT AND WHAT THEY THINK IS BEST FOR THEM NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

ON OUR NEXT PROGRAM, WE SHALL TAKE A LOOK INTO THE STATUS OF COMMONWEALTH, THE STATUS WHICH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS REJECTED, BUT ONE WHICH THE MARIANAS HAVE OPTED FOR AND ARE NOW USING AS A BASIS FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THEME: UP. ESTABLISH FOR TEN SECONDS. THEN FADE UNDER:

ANNOUNCER: NEXT WEEK WE WILL HEAR THE FOURTH PROGRAM OF THIS SERIES... POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE AIR. THIS HAS BEEN A PUBLIC SERVICE PRESENTATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO HELP BRING ABOUT AN AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA. THIS PROGRAM HAS COME TO YOU FROM SAIPAN AND IS A PRESENTATION OF THE MICRONESIAN BROADCASTING SERVICE.

THEME: UP TO END OF TIME.