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SECT 60 OF 02340

ACTION

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK  
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RUWJAJA/COMTWELVE S.F. UNN  
BT  
C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2321

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI FOR HICOM & STATUS LNO  
COMTWELVE S.F. FOR AMB. WILLIAMS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UN, TQ  
SUBJ: TTPI: SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION OF MARIANAS

REF: USUN 2173

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE ISSUE OF SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE MARIANAS IS NOW UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION. AS PLANS ARE MADE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND FACTORS THAT WILL AFFECT ULTIMATE JUDGMENT IN THE UNITED NATIONS ON TERMINATION OF TRUSTEESHIP.

2. AS REPORTED REFTL, AT THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL ALL DELEGATIONS EXCEPT THE SOVIETS SEEMED AT LAST TO HAVE ACCEPTED THE FACT THAT THE

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REVIEWED BY BMS DATE 1/7/88  
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MARIANAS ARE HEADED TOWARD SEPARATE STATUS. THEIR ACCEPTANCE, HOWEVER, AND SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL OF TERMS OF TERMINATION FOR TRUSTEESHIP, ARE CONTINGENT UPON CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS HAVE HAD THE CHANCE FOR, AND REJECTED, THE STATUS CHOSEN BY THE REST OF MICRONESIA. A PLEBISCITE OFFERING ALTERNATIVES, AND PREFERABLY HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THAT FOR THE REST OF MICRONESIA, SHOULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY EVIDENCE. IF TIMING MAKES THIS IMPOSSIBLE, AT LEAST A SPECIAL REFERENDUM SHOULD BE HELD.

3. AT THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL THIS YEAR WE STATED, AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, THAT WHILE THE MARIANAS MIGHT BE ADMINISTERED SEPARATELY BEFORE THE END OF THE TRUSTEESHIP, THE U.S. INTENDED TO TERMINATE THE TRUST AGREEMENT FOR ALL OF MICRONESIA SIMULTANEOUSLY. NO FURTHER QUESTIONS WERE ASKED ON THIS POINT, NOR WERE OBJECTIONS RAISED.

4. THUS WE SEE FEW PROBLEMS AT THE U.N. WITH SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE MARIANAS FOLLOWING A PLEBISCITE (EXCEPT POSSIBLY WITH SOVIETS, WHO MAY OBJECT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THE CHINESE, WHOSE VIEWS ARE UNKNOWN SINCE THEY HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED). IF, HOWEVER, SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE INAUGURATED BEFORE THE PLEBISCITE, EVEN IF REQUESTED BY MARIANAN NEGOTIATORS AND/OR BY DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, WE WOULD FORESEE SERIOUS CRITICISM BY EVEN MOST FRIENDLY TO THE EFFECT THAT THE VOTERS WERE PRESENTED WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI RATHER THAN A GENUINE CHOICE. THIS WOULD HAVE THE FURTHER DRAWBACK OF GIVING AMMUNITION TO SOVIETS AND OTHERS WHO MIGHT CHOOSE TO OPPOSE THE SEPARATION OF THE MARIANAS UNDER ANY TERMS.

5. SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION FOR MARIANAS WOULD HAVE FAR-FROM ROUTINE IMPLICATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF MARIANAS DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, THEY WILL IN EFFECT CLOSE OFF OPTION OF CONTINUING IN UNITED MICRONESIA. THUS ARGUMENT WILL BE MADE THAT SEPARATE ADMINISTRATION IS REALLY POINT OF DECISION, FROM WHICH THERE IS LITTLE POSSIBILITY OF TURNING BACK, AND WHICH SHOULD FOR THIS REASON BE PUT TO THE PEOPLE.

6. WE THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT SEPARATE

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ADMINISTRATION FOLLOW, NOT PRECEDE, PLEBISCITE OF  
REFERENDUM, IN ORDER TO HAVE UNASSAILABLE POSITION THAT  
THIS IS THE WISH OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS, NOT  
ENGINEERED BY US. OTHERWISE, WE FORESEE NEEDLESS AND  
POSSIBLY COSTLY DIFFICULTIES.

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