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CLASSIFIED BY: 153-8113
SUBJECT: PEACE CORPS

REF: INTERPACTS P033870Z22JULY74-TTPI#421

PEACE CORPS IS PRESENTLY CONDUCTING A TEN WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM FOR 168 VOLUNTEERS AT SEVEN DIFFERENT SITES IN THE TTPI. EACH DISTRICT HAS ITS OWN TRAINING PROGRAM THESE VOLUNTEERS WILL BE SERVING DURING AN IMPORTANT AND HISTORICAL PERIOD BETWEEN 1975-1976, WHEN THE TT WILL MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT SELF-GOVERNMENT AND WILL CONDUCT THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS PLEBISCITE. AS MANY OF THESE VOLUNTEERS WILL BE LOCATED IN REMOTE AREAS, THEY WILL BE CLOSELY QUESTIONED BY THE LOCAL PEOPLE ON THE MERITS OF THE VARIOUS STATUS CHOICES. AT PRESENT MUCH OF STATUS INFORMATION IS GLEANED FROM SUCH SOURCES AS: THE FRIENDS OF MICRONESIA AND THE MICRONESIAN INDEPENDENCE AND SOCIAL RUMOR MILLS. IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO HAVE PERSONNEL FROM THE STATUS STATION OFFICE OR COMNAV TO EACH OF THE SEVEN TRAINING SITES AND EXPLAIN WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING IN MICRONESIA DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS AND ITS IMPORTANCE TO BOTH MICRONESIA AND THE UNITED

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SECT 01 OF 91338

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FM CINCPAC REP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
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RUEHBAC/AMEMB CANBERRA AS
RUMJMA /AMEMB MANILA RP
RUEHKO /AMEMB TOKYO JA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L//N00000//
SECTION 01 OF 02

FROM STATUS LNO 2021 (JULY 3, 1974)

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WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC
STATE FOR EA/ANP, IO/UNP
DEFENSE FOR OSD/ISA
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SUBJ: MICRONESIAN REFLECTIONS

1. (C) WHILE TWO YEARS IS A VERY SHORT TIME IN THE COURSE OF
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, I BELIEVE THAT THE PAST TWO YEARS HERE
HAVE SEEN THE EVOLUTION OF A TREND IN MICRONESIA THAT COULD
PROVE IMPORTANT AND FAVORABLE TO THE EVENTUAL WORKING OUT

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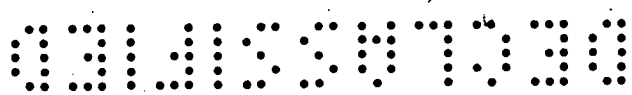
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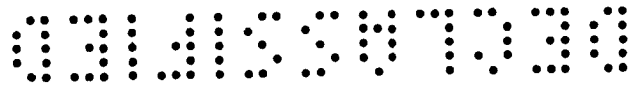
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OF MICRONESIA'S POLITICAL STATUS PROBLEMS. A GROWING NUMBER OF MICRONESIANS ARE ACTUALLY THINKING ABOUT THESE PROBLEMS AND RECOGNIZING THEREBY THAT THEY ARE NOT MATTERS OF MERELY ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION BY A REMOTE CONGRESS BUT ARE RELEVANT TO THEIR DAILY LIVES.

2. (C) THIS AWAKENING OF POPULAR INTEREST HAS SERVED AS SOMETHING OF A BRIDLE TO THE RUNAWAY INDEPENDENCE ADVOCATES WHO MANAGED TO MAKE SUCH A SHAMBLES OF THE PONAPE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS IN AUGUST 1972. TODAY FRANCISCO ULUDONG, YOUNG MILITANT SO CONSPICUOUS ON AND OFF THE FLOOR AT PONAPE, IS A SOBER BUSINESS MAN IN KOROR HAVING EXCHANGED HIS BIZARRE ANTI-G.I. CLOTHING FOR MORE CONSERVATIVE DRESS. THE FRIENDS OF MICRONESIA HAVE NOT SHOWN UP BY NAME SINCE THEY WERE GIVEN A FAIRLY HARD TIME AT THE CONFERENCE THEY SPONSORED IN PALAU LAST SUMMER (ALTHOUGH AT LEAST ONE MEMBER HAS ON OCCASION BEEN ACTIVE ON TINIAN TO STIR UP OPPOSITION TO A U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE.) SEN. AMARAICH OF TRUK, PRESTIGIOUS AND ARTICULATE SPOKESMAN FOR INDEPENDENCE, IS IN POLITICAL TROUBLE IN HIS DISTRICT THAT MAY WELL RESULT IN HIS DEFEAT IN THE NOVEMBER COM ELECTIONS. HIS COLLEAGUE AND FELLOW INDEPENDENCE ADVOCATE, SENATE PRESIDENT NAKAYAMA, HAS BEEN SILENT ON THE SUBJECT.

3. (C) IN RETROSPECT IT SEEMS THAT LAST SUMMER'S VISITS TO THE DISTRICTS BY THE TWO SECTIONS OF THE JCFS CONSTITUTED A SOMENHAT RUDE AWAKENING TO THE JCFS ON THE ONE HAND AND TO THEIR AUDIENCES ON THE OTHER. THE JCFS WAS BROUGHT FACE TO FACE WITH THE CONSTITUENTS' CHARGES OF FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE AND TO KEEP PEOPLE INFORMED OF WHAT THEY WERE DOING, AND THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, EVEN ON SOME OF THE OUTER ISLANDS, CAME INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE CONGRESSMEN WHO WERE ARRANGING THEIR POLITICAL FUTURE.

4. (C) ANOTHER STEP IN POINTING UP THE SUPSTANTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES RATHER THAN THE IRRESPONSIBLE RHETORIC OF STATUS DETERMINATION HAS BEEN THE EXAMINATION OF THE PUBLIC LAND SITUATION. WHILE THE U.S. LAND POLICY STATEMENT OF LAST NOVEMBER HAS NOT YET BEEN FOLLOWJED UP LWITH IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION, IT SIGNALLED CLEARLY FROM ONE END OF MICRONESIA TO THE OTHER THAT THE U.S. AT LAST INTENDED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THIS IMPORTANT AND COMPLEX ISSUE, SO VITAL TO MICRONESIANS. SINCE SETTLEMENT OF THE PUBLIC LAND QUESTION HAD BECOME A PART OF THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, THIS MOVE BROUGHT THE STATUS ISSUE VIRTUALLY DONN TO EVERY MICRONESIAN'S COCONUT TREE.



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5. (C) THE TT ADMINISTRATION'S EDUCATION FOR SELF GOVERNMENT (ESG) PROGRAM AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (CONCON) ELECTION OF EARLY JUNE WITH WHICH IT WAS CLOSELY LINKED HAVE ALSO PROVIDED WIDE-SPREAD DEMONSTRATION THAT THE GOALS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT AND STATUS DETERMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH MICRONESIANS' DULY-EXPRESSED WJISHES ARE FOR REAL.
6. (C) THIS AWARENESS HAS BROUGHT WITH IT IN SOME QUARTERS CERTAIN FEARS AND RESERVATIONS RAISING CAUTIONS AS TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF CHANGE. CONCERN FOCUSES ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS WITH THE RESULT THAT A GROWINGLY ARTICULATE BUT HARD TO ESTIMATE NUMBER OF MICRONESIANS ARE ASSERTING THAT IN EFFECT IT MAY BE BETTER TO ENDURE THE ILLS THEY HAVE THAN FLY TO OTHERS THAT THEY KNOW NOT OF. THIS KINDLED AWARENESS OF STATUS ISSUES HAS ALSO BROUGHT OUT SIGNS OF AWAKENED INTEREST IN A COMMONWEALTH ALTERNATIVE.
7. (C) IN FACT THE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS FOR COMMONWEALTH STATUS HAVE HAD REPERCUSSIONS ON THE THINKING OF OTHERS ALIVE TO STATUS MATTERS. VIGOROUS OPPOSITION TO MARIANAS SEPARATION ON PART OF JCFS AND CONGRESS MAY BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE SO LONG AS THERE IS A CONTINUATION OF PRESENT AMBIVALENCE IN MARIANAS POSITION. I BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT EARLY ADMINISTRATIVE SEPARATION IS DESIRABLE. THIS WILL CAUSE TREMORS IN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE READJUSTMENT AND FLEXIBILITY AT HEADQUARTERS BUT UNLESS AND UNTIL IT IS DONE, CONFUSION AND DELAY WILL CONTINUE.
8. (C) A NEW SPECTRE HAS ARISEN ON MARIANAS SCENE: THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGALIZED GAMBLING WITH SLOT MACHINES AS PRESENT PRINCIPAL ATTRACTION AND, REPORTEDLY, ORGANIZED GAMBLING WAITING NEARBY IN THE WINGS. ONE REPORT SAYS A LAS VEGAS SYNDICATE IS SEEKING TO ACQUIRE LAND FOR A CASINO ON SAIPAN BEACH FRONT ADJACENT TO COMMUNITY CHURCH. BOTH CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT PASTORS ARE DEEPLY WORRIED ABOUT ACTUAL AS WELL AS PROSPECTIVE SOCIAL EFFECTS. DISCUSSIONS AT TT HEADQUARTERS AND IN DISTRICT POINT TO DISTAD ADA'S INVOLVEMENT AS WELL AS COMPLICITY OF OTHER LEADERS, AMONG THEM MPSC MEMBERS MUNA AND CRUZ. WITH SITUATION ON NEARBY GUAM AS ALARMING EXAMPLE, IT SEEMS CLEARLY NECESSARY THAT SOME STEPS BE TAKEN URGENTLY TO BRING UNDER CONTROL THIS SITUATION WHICH WOULD SERIOUSLY THREATEN OUR EFFORTS TO CREATE SOUND ECONOMIC BASE IN PROSPECTIVE COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANAS.
9. (C) PROGRESS IN THE MARIANA STATUS NEGOTIATIONS HAS SERVED, I BELIEVE, AS AN IMPETUS TO THE JCFS TO MOVE AHEAD WITH MICRO NEGOTIATIONS. BUT MANY OF THE OLD FAMILIAR HURDLES REMAIN.

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I HOPE HOWEVER THAT WE CAN TEST PALAUAN PROTESTATIONS OF READINESS BY SENDING U.S. TEAM WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS TO DETERMINE AREA DEGIRED UNDER ANNEX B. THERE MAY WELL BE HIDDEN HOOKERS IN PALAU RESOLUTION INVITING SUCH TEAM, BUT TIME SEEMS RIPE TO MAKE THE TRY AND GIVE SUBSTANCE TO OUR STATED INTEREST.

10. (C) JCFS GIVES INDICATIONS OF BEING PARTICULARLY INTERESTED
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SECT 02 OF 91338

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R 080130Z JUL 74
FM CINCPAC REP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
TO RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
RUWJAJA/COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
RUEADWW/WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUEHDT /US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY
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FINAL SECTION OF 02

AT THIS JUNCTURE IN IMPLICATIONS OF TITLE II OF DRAFT COMPACT (EXTERNAL RELATIONS). QUESTION OF DEGREE AND MANNER OF MICRONESIAN RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES APPEARS TO BE COMING UP AS POINT OF MAJOR INTEREST TO JCFS NEGOTIATORS. THIS REPRESENTS A NEW TACK ON THEIR PART, REQUIRING CLOSE COORDINATION AMONG ALL INTERESTED ELEMENTS OF USG.

11. (C) IN CONNECTION WITH ANY CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS ASPECT OF MICRONESIA'S FUTURE, JAPAN WITH ITS GROWING INTERESTS IN MICRONESIA, LOOMS LARGE. THE VARIOUS LAYERS OF GOVERNMENT IN MICRONESIA APPEAR TO OFFER ENTICING OPPORTUNITY FOR ECONOMIC INFILTRATION IN A MANNER NOT CONDUCTIVE TO STRENGTHENING MICRONESIAN ECONOMIC CAPABILITIES. WHILE ADMITTEDLY THIS IS ONLY ONE FACTOR IN LARGER EQUATION OF U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS AND A REPORTEK IN MICRONESIA MAY MANIFEST SOME MYOPIA ON THE

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SUBJECT, I BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT THE U.S. REMAIN ALERT TO THE OFTEN CIRCUITOUS CHANNELS AND COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS INVOLVED.

12. (C) SUMMING UP- THE PRESENT SEEMS A REASONABLY GOOD TIME TO PRESS FOR EARLY COMPLETION AND SIGNATURES ON THE DRAFT COVENANT AND DRAFT COMPACT RESPECTIVELY. THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA ARE BETTER PREPARED THAN THEY HAVE BEEN TO DEAL WITH THE SUBJECT ALTHOUGH CONSIDERABLE ADDITIONAL VIGOROUS ESG EFFORT IS NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR RESPECTIVE PLEBISCITES.

13. (C) DEPHICOM COLEMAN HAS SPOKEN OF MICRONESIA AS 'THE EVER-RECEDING HORIZON.' CERTAINLY THE HOPED FOR QUICK SOLUTION OF THE STATUS ISSUES ARE ELUSIVE BUT FOR REASONS SUGGESTED HEREIN THERE ARE SOME ENCOURAGING SIGNS ON THE HORIZONS OF RATHER MORE REALISTIC ATTITUDES ON THE SUBJECT. NAY IS NOT CLEAR TO US VIEWING THE SCENE WITH OUR WESTERN EYES AND BACKGROUND. BUT WE ARE SEEKING A GOAL DEEMED IMPORTANT AND UN'IQUYE TO TH4E NATIONAL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF NECESSITY IN THIS DAY AND TIME WE MUST SEEK IT IN COORDINATION WITH MICRONESIANS.

14. (C) THE DEPARTING REPORTER MAY THEREFORE BE PARDONED FOR CONCLUDING THIS MESSAGE WITH A QUOTE FROM THE KWEATHERED NAVIGATOR OF THE OUTRIGGER FLEET THAT RECENTLY SAILED THE 500 MILES FROM SATAWAL TO SAIPAN RELYING QUITE NATURALLY ON TRADITIONAL METHODS OF NAVIGATION. TO AN AMERICAN QUESTION AS TO HOW HE MANAGED TO KEEP HIS COURSE ON THE VAST OCEAN IN STORM AS WELL AS FAIR WEATHER, THE OLD MAN REPLIED THROUGH AN INTERPRETER: 'BUT THE STARS ARE ALWAYS THERE.'

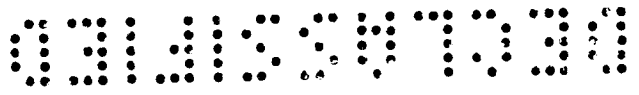
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